# JOHN BULL

Vol. VI. No. 137. SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1909. ONE PENNY.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]


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No. 162274

*The world is a bundle of hay;*
*Mankind are the asses who pull;*
*Each tugs it a different way,*
*And the greatest of all is John Bull*

—BYRON.

**Edited by**
**HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.**

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See page iii of cover.

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# JOHN BULL.

*Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:*
*Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.*

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## THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

*[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]*

What are these rumours of coming Ministerial changes? Herbert Gladstone "going up"; Sir William Robson succeeding him; Sir Samuel Evans going to the Bench; Rufus Isaacs to be Attorney, and Mr. Simon, Solicitor-General—with Mr. Buckmaster in the running for the latter post, or in the alternative, for the other of the two forthcoming judicial posts; the retiring judges being Justices Grantham and Lawrance. But what about Reading? Even Walthamstow is not safe! And what about Mr. Churchill? Surely he is not to be wasted much longer at the Board of Trade. Is it true that Mr. Haldane will make room for him?

Here is a matter worthy of the attention of His Majesty's advisers:—

> I read in the daily press of the King's message to his fleet, wherein His Majesty expresses his high appreciation and approbation of the conduct of officers and men of the Mediterranean Fleet for the gallantry displayed by them in dealing with the recent disaster in Italy and Sicily. I also read, some days before, of the gallant conduct of the captain, officers and crew of a British merchant vessel, the s.s. *Drake*, of London, which was lying in Messina harbour at the time of the great catastrophe. These men at once went on shore, and at the risk of their lives, they laboured heroically to save life and succour the injured. With the usual lack of recognition accorded to both officers and men of the Merchant Service by those in high places, the gallant conduct of these brave men is apparently not worthy of mention, and, like hundreds of other brave deeds performed by the men of the Merchant Service, will pass unnoticed into oblivion.
>
> Actions speak louder than words, and judging by their actions, it would appear to be the object of all highly-placed officials in this country to advise His Majesty to utterly ignore all those who go down to the sea in Merchant ships. That such a state of affairs should exist in regard to the officers and men of our greatest industry is indeed lamentable.

Evidently the people of Messina, all who are left of them, do not intend to take the earthquake lying down. The other day one of the Italian papers exclaimed: "Messina was; Messina is not; Messina never will be." Yet we now hear of the determination of the refugees to rebuild the city on the same site, though people outside the earthquake zone "regard the project as sheer madness." But just as San Francisco has risen from its ashes, or at all events is rising from them, so it is not at all improbable that in a few years the world may behold a new Messina. That this, too, will fall sooner or later we have little doubt. And its next earthquake, if it should be postponed for half a century, may be as great a catastrophe. But hope springs eternal in the human breast. Many of the local survivors would feel almost foreign to the soil living in any other part of the country. Sentiment and commercial enterprise alike are against those who would leave Messina to be numbered among the world's dead cities.

The object of the appearance of Monsieur Edward Bellamy in this country was to compete for a prize offered by somebody to the first man who would fly from London to Jerusalem. But a few evenings ago he perceived a young girl waiting outside the Oxford Circus Tube station, whereupon, as she told the magistrate, "He came along in a wild, dashing manner, seized her round the neck, and kissed her." Evidently monsieur wholly misunderstands the manners and customs of our land. True, Josh Billings once expressed the view that "the only wai tew diskribe a kiss iz tew take one, and then set down, awl alone, out ov the draft, and smack yure lips." In this country, however, you are much more likely to get a smack on your face in such circumstances. In the case of monsieur, she preferred to consult a policeman, and the result was that he was fined £2 10s., to be given to her. The next time he perceives that girl, she will probably be wearing a new hat, with feathers.

Mr. Reginald Blake, of Hammersmith, appears to be a creature of a rather unique type. As the friend of a young man named Strong, he was present at the latter's marriage. After Mr. and Mrs. Strong had lived together for three weeks, Blake and Mrs. Strong, a girl of 18, went away together. The husband had an income of £2 a week, he allowed his wife £1 a week, and Blake lived with her out of the money, having none of his own and no employment of any kind. As the coroner said at the inquest on Strong, who was found hanging behind his bedroom door, "If it had not been for the evidence given it would have been almost impossible to credit that a man calling himself a man would live on the proceeds of the money granted by another man to his wife." But perhaps Blake does not call himself a man. Perhaps he calls himself a blackguard—in which case it will be difficult for anyone to quarrel with the description.

Bottomley's Book will be published immediately after the conclusion of the Guildhall proceedings in Rex *v.* Bottomley.

Many readers cannot believe that in our last issue we correctly quoted *The Christian re* the recent earthquake. We therefore give the paragraph in full :—

> In the earthquake which on Monday morning visited the south of Italy and the island of Sicily, we do well to recognise one of the events through which in a special manner God seeks to turn the thoughts of men from the things that are temporal to those that are eternal. The warmest sympathy is called for on behalf of the sufferers and the bereaved, and not in vain will the cry for help and succour be addressed to Christian men and women. The deeper lesson will be pressed home by the faithful preacher who finds here a reminder, not only that in the midst of life we are in death, but also that the men and women thus carried off were not necessarily sinners above many who have been spared. Although the morrow is veiled from our eyes, there ever comes to the hearing ear *the assurance that the tender mercies of the Lord are over all His works.*

*The Freethinker*, in its most rollicking days, never printed such blasphemy as this.

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That Cheltenham Baptist philanthropist who died the other day must have been a bit of a wag. He had been a pillar of the church which he attended, where there were nine deacons. Now, deacons in the Midlands and the North are very important personages, and it may be remembered that Bailie Nicol Jarvie never lost an opportunity of impressing upon all and sundry the fact that his "faither was a deacon." The Cheltenham surprise packet was that £100 was to be paid to the funds of the church for each deacon who took the trouble to attend the funeral of the dear departed. As a conventional duty, apart from any question of respect, one might have been sure that all the deacons would have thus honoured the dead; but it so happened that none of the deacons paid the last token of respect to their deceased friend. We would like to hear what they said when the will was read—and what the pastor and congregation, who lost the money, also said! What they *thought*, it would be impertinence on our part to enquire!

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Saving Souls by False Pretences, or procuring attendance at revivalist meetings by subtle means and devices, is not a criminal offence. Otherwise, we should have to direct the attention of the Public Prosecutor to the author of the following handbill :—

SALVATION ARMY, TRYST ROAD.
Sunday, July 19th (D.V.),
MAJOR FALKUS
(of Glasgow, Chancellor for Scotland)
will conduct a Day of Salvation,
and will fire the first
SHOT
at 7 a.m. We are believing God will raise
DEAD
Souls to life at 11 a.m., and 3 p.m.
At 6.30 p.m. the Major will conduct his
LAST
Meeting in the Drill Hall.
The Major's addresses are both practical and interesting, and all are affectionately invited. Monday
NIGHT
at 8 p.m., Public Meeting, conducted by Officers in charge.
Ensign Henwood.
Lieut. Bruce.

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We have heard a good deal about being too old for work at 40, but it is news to us to learn that a great railway company—the Great Eastern, to wit—finds men too old for employment at 26. A correspondent applied to the Superintendent of the Great Eastern Railway for work. He is a Reservist, with a "very good" character, and his age is 26 years. This is the reply he received from Mr. R. P. Ellis, who describes himself as "Superintendent of the Line," and addresses from the Great Eastern Railway Company's office, Liverpool Street Station, the date being December 17th, 1908 :—

> I have received your letter of the 16th inst. applying for employment, but regret to inform you that your age precludes the possibility of my offering you any employment in this company's service.

Well, well!

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It is curious that while military picketing has been abolished at Aldershot, the Admiralty has put on a new naval picket for duty at Waterloo railway station from Saturday to Monday. The duty of the picket is to watch the coming and going of liberty men. The reason, not indeed given, but suggested, for this new step is that the Admiralty "desire to check the undue levity among the men sometimes witnessed, it being felt that it may cause possible recruits to withhold from joining the Naval Service on the fear that the Service is rough." As a matter of fact, the Handy Man gives the police officials at the station little or no trouble. True, it occasionally happens that he laughs out loud in his joy, or even executes a dance on the platform. Now he will have to cease these ecstatic ebullitions, and conducting himself more like a mourner at a funeral, drop the silent tear. Coming or going, he must in future wear a demeanour of sadness and a face of woe.

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One of our Chiswick readers, responding to the advertisement of Messrs. Leyton and Co., of Bradford, in a Sunday paper, that they would send a parcel of useful household articles for 2s. 6d. and 6d. postage, sent that amount. In due course he received the parcel, which consisted of two dozen horn buttons and one dozen hooks and eyes, value 3d.; two fern pot-covers, value 2d.; one packet of needles, value 1d.; two "towels," value 2d.; one "glorious" hearthrug, value 6d.; two photo frames, value 7d.; and two d'oyleys, value 1d.—taking the purchaser's valuation. As the number of his order was 3,757, there were apparently at the time of dispatch 3,756 other rather foolish persons who expected a lot for their money, and got it. Whether they expected a pianoforte, a perambulator, an Axminster carpet, a load of firewood and a ton of coals to be included in the parcel we do not know. Certainly they cannot have made much use of the intelligence which presumably the Lord vouchsafed to them. All that is needed for the adequate enjoyment of a sausage is confidence. All that seems to be needed for the conduct of Messrs. Leyton and Co.'s business is—ditto. Three-thousand-seven-hundred-and-fifty-seven people got 50 useful articles according to offer. Why should they worry? The foolish are answered according to their folly.

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The barrack-room discipline exacted by so many hospital matrons from sisters and nurses tells hardly on the class of women workers who deserve well of the community. Though thousands of them know no other home than that they find within the walls of the hospital to which they are attached, they are subjected day in and day out to petty tyrannies and unreasonable restrictions, having no option but to submit to them, since the goodwill and recommendation of the matron, almost absolute in her own sphere, must be secured at all costs. Why in the world do not hospital committees look a little more closely into the grievances of nurses? If a nurse goes to a theatre, she must, in some hospitals, stand on the door-mat while the matron considers whether she will grant a "late pass." When a nurse goes out, she must wear only this or that, at the whim of the matron. These, and such things as these, naturally cause a great deal of soreness and discontent. They seem to have neither point nor purpose, except that of humiliating their victims.

Cannot the Civil Service Commission do something better for their boy-messengers than they are doing at present? The boys are taken on at fourteen; at twenty they are turned adrift, to find any job they can, but quite unfitted for ordinary commercial employment. It appears that telegraph boys have more or less opportunity of becoming postmen, and that boy-clerks may secure posts as abstractors. For boy messengers, however, no provision whatever seems to be made. One would suppose that they would be chosen as men messengers on completion of their service. On the contrary, the fact appears to be that the men messengers are appointed from the ranks of valets, window-cleaners, grocers, and so forth, none of them having had any training or done any sort of Government service. It looks as if influence counts for more in the appointment of men messengers than it ought to do, for we are informed that the last three or four appointed to the Patent Office have been either valets or employed in some other capacity in private service. In the face of this array of outside talent, the six years' experience of the boy-messengers counts for nothing.

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Our attention has been directed to what seems a hardship. A man gets a little too much to drink, a constable comes up and takes him to the police station; there he says—as is the way with drunken men—that he is quite sober, and the officer in charge thereupon advises him to call in the police doctor, which he does. The doctor looks at him, says he is drunk, and charges 7s. 6d. The man has no money with which to pay, and next morning he is sent to prison, not for being drunk, but because he has not paid the 7s. 6d. doctor's fee. In the case we are considering, *i.e.*, a working man up for the first time, the usual procedure is usually a simple one. The man admits he is drunk, pleads first offence, and the magistrate lets him off with a caution. But where the doctor has been called in he is sent to gaol if he does not pay the 7s. 6d. And not only sent to gaol, but kept there, and treated worse in the way of diet than a convicted prisoner. Of course he need not have called in the doctor, but a man in his cups is usually cantankerous and insists that he is as sober as a judge. The doctor cannot be expected to examine without payment, but surely 2s. 6d. would in such cases be a sufficient charge?

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There is one item, at any rate, of the "recommendations" of the Committee on State Contracts which we trust the Government will ignore. We refer to the under-payment of women who do work similar to that of men. It is obvious that with the increasing competition of women, their under-payment will more and more tend to the under-payment of men, especially in unorganised trades. Apart from this, the withholding of a man's wage from a woman who does a man's work is an economic injustice which means the piling up of additional profits by grinding employers. It is true there are trades where, in addition to manual dexterity, a certain amount of physical strength is required, but the division, and the adjustment of division, in labour has now been brought to so fine a point that such difficulties may be easily overcome. The woman clerk, with her shorthand and her typewriter, has already reduced the wage standard of the man clerk, similarly equipped, where she has not ousted him altogether. As a "model employer," it ought to be the business of the State to take the greatest care to prevent this condition of things from spreading.

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A doctor has been complaining that when he drives furiously to visit a patient, he is liable to be fined for exceeding the limit, though every minute saved may mean the saving of a life. Our confidence in doctors does not enable us to endorse this theory. But even if it did, how is the common policeman to distinguish between a medical man and a layman? The leech might be taught to carry a red lamp, but how would the police know that he was on urgent business? Surely it cannot seriously be suggested that every prescriber of pills shall be allowed to indulge his passion for speed on every occasion, and endanger more lives than any he can ever pretend to save. But admitting his plea, we suggest that his patients should pay his fines, incurred on their behalf.

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Many of our readers are doubtless looking with anxiety to the decisions of the Select Committee of the House of Commons which is dealing with the question of imprisonment for debt. They will note with satisfaction that Judge Owen, of Cardiff, favours its total abolition, while Judge Wood, of Leicester, would limit it to cases of fraud and breach of contract, though we fear that certain unjust judges might give undue elasticity to the phrase "breach of contract." After all there is a certain contract implied in ordering a loaf or a leg of mutton from the local tradesman. As an alternative to imprisonment for debt, Judge Wood proposes that the names of judgemnt debtors should be pilloried in the post-offices, and that it should become a penal offence for a judgment debtor to obtain credit of £1 without mentioning his unsatisfied judgments. We think the whole difficulty might be got over by adopting Lord Randolph Churchill's suggestion, and reducing the time-limit within which a debt can be enforced from six years to six months—at least, as regards small amounts.

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We notice that at a girls' gymnastic display in Monmouthshire it was announced that "gentlemen will not be admitted unless they are fathers." We do not quite follow the precise moral aspect of this regulation. If it was considered indelicate that the girls' evolutions should be witnessed by males, it is not clear why an exception should be made in favour of those who could give proof of paternity. No doubt a father may safely be permitted to witness the contortions of his own daughters, but why should he enjoy special privileges for beholding the limbs of other people's daughters? Because a man is a father it does not necessarily follow that he is a paragon of purity. It does not even follow that he has troubled to go through the ceremony of marriage. Now, if the visitors had been restricted to married men, there would have been more sense in the regulation!

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The Uxbridge Guardians have been indulging in a debate on our paragraphs of November 28th. We assure them that our plea for the down trodden out-of-works was by no means intended to be "funny." Our indignation entirely excluded any idea of humour. The reply of the Guardians is that they used only to compel their victims to break up 5 cwt. of granite per day, but that able-bodied men finished the task by 3 p.m., and, terrible to relate, "it was stated that they were also able to pay for a glass of beer." No doubt such ability to pay must have constituted a disgraceful scandal. Even so, however, we fail to see how the fact of raising the task from 5 cwt. to 7 cwt. would entirely exclude the possibility of indulgence in this mild refreshment. Meanwhile, we must point out once more that the Guardians are still unable to explain why the payment which they make for heavy work of this kind should be regarded by them as "relief" of a pauperising character. Perhaps the most characteristic answer of these gentlemen was that of Sir William Bruce, who said that "he did not think that anybody that was respectable read JOHN BULL." We wonder what our 300,000 readers think of this imputation on their character. We hope that none of them will pull the gallant gentleman's nose as a mild lesson in manners.

As if London did not already possess a sufficient number of monstrous monuments, it is now threatend with a statue by the egregious Rodin, who has devoted his artistic life to the apotheosis of the ugly. What a pity that the voters who send foolish persons to Spring Gardens do not insist upon a pledge from their candidates to make some effort to prevent the multiplication of eye-sores. However, we do not suppose that even Rodin can succeed in beating the record established by the awful effigies of John Stuart Mill and Oliver Cromwell.

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While still rejoicing over the passing of the Old Age Pensions Act, we are considerably disappointed to find that rich landowners and prosperous employers of labour are taking advantage of the measure to cut down the pensions which they have hitherto been paying out of their own pockets. It will be a great scandal if the sacrifices of the taxpayer, intended to soothe the declining years of the veterans of industry, are to be deflected for the relief of bloated millionaires. It is difficult to see how these cormorants are to be circumvented, but the pressure of public opinion must somehow or other be brought to bear.

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Serious complaints reach us of the ill-treatment to which pit-ponies are subjected in many coal workings throughout the country. Our information is that the ponies are driven by putter lads, and are engaged to pull the loaded wagons from the face to the level, where the engine then takes the wagons to the shaft When the miner is working in a difficult place for the wagons to be drawn out, only the pick of the ponies can be got to face the work, and these are often kept at it for two, and even three shifts of ten hours each, with only a short rest at intervals. They are whipped to the task until they can hardly stand. In one mine we hear of ponies limping about on three legs. For the moment, we have no means of independently testing the information. We like to believe that miners and mine managers are humane as well as brave. The pit-ponies are defenceless, down with them in the deep darkness to help them to make their living and benefit the whole community with the black harvest of their labour. As many of our readers are miners, perhaps they will tell us whether the complaint is one which warrants closer sifting.

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"Pastor" Reuben May is very busy just now sending out appeals for money. We have been shown a copy of his "Christmas Jottings of Mission Work in Central London," with illustrations of the multitudes entertained by the reverend gentleman and pictures of the "outcast and extreme poor raised by the Mission" to become "owner of City office," "nursing Bible-woman," "evangelist," etc. We notice that one of the positions for which the Mission professes to be responsible is "happy deaths at home and in infirmaries." Mr. May, like the purveyors of bogus jewellery, addresses the recipients of his circulars as "Dear Friend." One of these "dear friends" wrote to him as follows on December 10th: "Sir,—I have received your appeal, but in view of the fact that you are cited in the *Truth* cautionary list as a 'professional charity-monger,' who has lived for 30 years on your alleged work, and who publishes no accounts and refuses all details, I shall be glad to have an explanation of the charges brought against you. If you have a satisfactory explanation to make, I shall be glad to investigate facts and give an impartial opinion. Yours faithfully, —— P.S.—You might mention your title to the style of 'Pastor.'" To this modest request no answer whatever was vouchsafed.

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Lord Alfred Douglas may be by courtesy a lord, but he has yet to acquire the elementary manners of a gentleman. In the obscure journal which he brings out every week in the alleged interests of literature, he has inserted an article which for vulgar brutality would be hard to beat, even in the wildest, wooliest and most Western offices of America. It appears that the Suffragettes indulged in a procession to celebrate their exodus from gaol. Accordingly, the noble and chivalrous lord delivered himself of nearly three columns of invective, entitled, "The Foot-Sore Frumps." Here are some samples of the taste of this aristocrat: "Right in front, wearing a ridiculous uniform, was the beautiful Mrs. Drummond, supported on her left by Sylvia, another little peach from the Pankhurst tree. . . . Then came Christabel and Mamma on the wagonette, looking, on the whole, a trifle sheepish. . . . An elderly gentleman with a broken nose distinguished himself by enquiring of Mr. Beerbohm's singing bird whether she were disposed to come down from her perch and do a day's washing for 'four bob, an' good pay too,' to which sally Mr. Beerbohm's singing bird replied with a gesture of the hand, which indicated great hauteur. . . . Even the prison-hardened Christabel had a faraway look, as of plum pudding, in her eye; and perhaps while she sat upon her triumphal yellow box, and the multitude howled and yelled or clapped at the sight of her, her thoughts were not there, my child, but otherwhere. Possibly she conjured up visions of a happy parlour at Clapham, over the entrance to which—ah, me!—there will hang on Christmas Day a sprig of mistletoe, and perhaps she wondered—dare she hope—that Max—the good, dear, kind Max of the *Saturday Review*—would come to claim his little wood nymph."

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Much unnecessary confusion is caused by a senseless habit of certain letter-writers. We should have thought that any sane person, confronted by a sheet of note-paper, which consists of four pages, would follow the natural order of 1, 2, 3, 4. Some, however, prefer 1, 3, 2, 4, or 1, 4, 2, 3, or even begin on the 2nd or 3rd page, and indulge in all sorts of fantastic permutations and combinations. These are bad enough when the pages are duly numbered, but when the recipient of a letter has to solve the problem for himself, he is often tempted to wish that jackals may defile his correspondent's grave.

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The Hon. Robert Charles Devereux, Tory candidate for Brecknockshire, is the heir of the Marquis of Hereford, and is J.P. and Deputy-Lieutenant of his county. We gather from a speech that he made at the Hay Constitutional Club that the limit of his ambitions is not reached by these high social distinctions, and that he is anxious to be decorated with the Grand Companionship of the Order of Snobs. "One of his active supporters," the Hon. Bob is reported to have said, "condoled with him after the last General Election. He told his sympathiser, however, that he was rather glad he did not get sent to Parliament, seeing the character of the majority. If he had been elected he would have been afraid of leaving his hat, stick or coat about anywhere when he got to the House." Whether the stick, hat or coat of the Hon. Bob is more valuable than that of Mr. Balfour or the other eminent leaders of the Tory party we do not know. In any case it is difficult to imagine any of them cutting a caddish and contemptible figure before a political audience by arraigning his political opponents as petty pilferers with whom so superior a person as himself could not associate. But, after all, the Hon. Bob does not amount to much more in politics than a penn'orth of potatoes, and our only purpose in drawing attention to his speech is to show that the snob is still an extant *genus*. On further consideration, though, there may be something in the anxiety of the Hon. Robert that nobody should see the size of his hat. We hadn't thought of that before.

In a recent issue we published a letter from an old Tory lamenting the want of manners and respect among the working-classes of the present day. A correspondent writes to suggest that this is not altogether the fault of the working-classes. He was brought up in a country village and was taught to show his respect towards his spiritual pastors and masters by doffing his cap to all clergymen of whatever creed or sect. When he left home the habit stuck to him for a time, and he went on saluting the cloth. But only on one occasion was his greeting returned, and he began to feel as though he had been trying to force an acquaintance, so he gave up saluting for fear of further snubs. In this connection he relates an anecdote about a ploughman who always raised his hand to his forehead when he met the local squire, who happened to be a duke. And the duke used to raise his hand and say "Good-morning, Johnson." A friend of the duke remarked to him one day, "Your Grace, why do you salute a common ploughman?" The duke replied, "Would you have the common ploughman a better gentleman than I?" We quite agree that the degeneration of manners is quite as conspicuous among the upper classes as it is among their alleged inferiors.

---

The death of the widow White, aged eighty-two, must lie heavily on the minds, if not on the consciences of the Hammersmith Guardians. The widow of an Army bandmaster, she had a pension of 25s. a month from the military authorities. The rent came to 3s. 6d., a week, and this deduction left the old woman and the daughter who took charge of her 3s. a week for food. At one time the Guardians granted relief, but for some reason or other not explained it was stopped, and she had practically starved to death. At the inquest on her body a few days ago the jury returned a verdict of "death from heart failure accelerated by want," and the coroner was constrained to add that "with such a Poor Law system as we had people ought not to be allowed to die in this way." It is difficult to believe that the Guardians deprived the old woman of relief from callousness or indifference. The most reasonable assumption appears to be that they were in some way misled by information supplied to them by one of their relieving officers, for a witness stated that she "had repeatedly given the woman and her daughter leavings from her own table." Clearly the Guardians owe some sort of explanation to the ratepayers whose enforced contributions they administer, and we trust that it will be immediately forthcoming.

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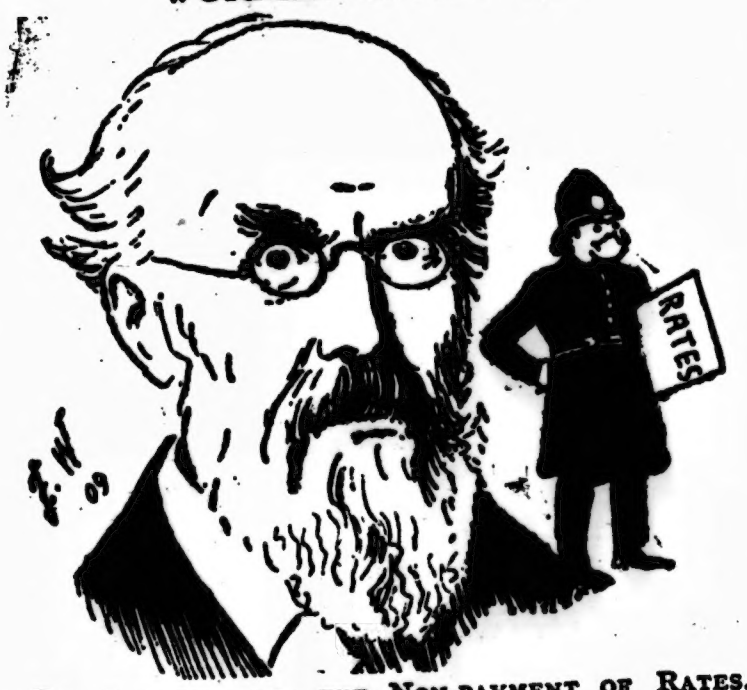
## WORRIED LOOKS.—XI.




DR. CLIFFORD AND THE NON-PAYMENT OF RATES.

# "John Bull's" Biscuits.

---

*For stating that a bullet "in its flight through Hadley's head, smashed the window sash,"*
*THE DAILY DISPATCH* (Manchester)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that "*TUESDAY *next" will be "Peace* SUNDAY."
*THE SURREY HERALD*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that he surrounded a house,*
POLICE-SERGEANT CALLOWAY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that "the whole cost of the land and erection of a new monastery is to be* DEFRAUDED *by a local lady,"*
*THE BIRMINGHAM CATHOLIC NEWS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that "a man was fined £2 and 19s. 6d. costs for selling* BUTTER *as* MARGARINE,"
*THE SOUTHWARK & BERMONDSEY RECORDER*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that, at Mr. Lloyd George's Albert Hall meeting, "a resolution condemning these tactics was carried by about 40 dissentients,"*
*THE EASTERN DAILY PRESS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that a horse named Sysonby, which died in 1906, and, if alive, would now be about 6 years old, "is shortly to visit England to compete for classic honours,"*
*THE PLANET*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For the following report: "William Mail, of Amersham, was summoned for having controlled his horses at Southall, some time ago the man with whom he was driving was killed and this had made him careful. Fined 10s."*
*THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX INDEPENDENT*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For the following lucid narrative, "When sentenced at the Clerkenwell Sessions to 15 months' hard labor for wounding a policeman, Alfred Schrier, 21, a dwarf, whose head only was visible above the misconduct, and called witnesses in I wish you a merry Christmas,"*
*THE STAR*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For the heading, "Echoes of coming divorce suits,"*
*THE DAILY MAIL*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For announcing that "the clergy of All Saints' are always glad to take funerals either of parishioners or of their friends who may* LIVE *outside the parish,"*
*SCULCOATES PARISH MAGAZINE* (HULL)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that "48 years ago Hanoverians were subjects of the British Crown,"*
*THE MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For informing us that "there is a man now undergoing a long term of penal servitude whose drowned body was identified by his wife years before he found his way alive to the prisoners' dock at the Old Bailey,"*
*ANSWERS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For the following sentence: "'By the dark lantern which one man carried,' replied the* DECEASED,"
*THE DAILY CHRONICLE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

---

*For stating that "there are such clever ladies as Mrs. Cornwallis-West,* NEE *Lady Randolph Churchill,"*
*THE WINNING POST*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

## ADVENTURE WITH A WOMAN SUFFRAGIST.

By Wm. Neil.

Yes, it's a rough life. But what's smooth nowadays? What do the big firms want with you when you're past fifty? In this job, age don't much matter as long as you've got your wits about you. Then, see what you come in contact with. Comedy and tragedy, if you like. You chaps fancy you know a little about life's ups and downs. You don't know a little bit. Tell you about some? Well, guv'nor, I've only got one place just now in my memory. Tell you about it? One day the guv'nor calls me into the office and seys to me, "Jones, get ready in a quarter-of-an-hour to come with me."

"Right, sir, I'm ready when you are."

"You had better take enough food, say, for three days at least, for we're going into a den of lions, female ones, and the chances are that you will have a rough time."

We reached our destination by the aid of a motor 'bus in half-an-hour. The door was opened by a well-dressed maid, and we were shown into a tastily-furnished room.

"Jones," says the guv'nor, "have you ever heard of the Women Suffragists?"

Further conversation was interrupted by the appearance of a couple of ladies, one of them very short, but with a firm face, the other being tall and beautiful.

"Your business, gentlemen?"

The guv'nor showed her his papers.

Then, sir, you ought to have heard the little 'un.

"So you have come at last, have you? You represent that part of your country's laws called an execution?"

"I do, madam," replied the guv'nor.

"Don't call me madam. You *worm!* Do you not know that madam denotes one who has allied herself to worms such as yourself? I am Miss Attaway. This is my niece."

The guv'nor bowed, and said:

"I must leave my man until the money is paid; unless you should think better of your position."

"Think!" she said. "We have done with thought. We have been thinking too long. The day for action has arrived. You men make the laws, we women, who are above you in intellect, have to stand like chattels."

"My dear lady, will you permit me to take an inventory of the things in your house, or I shall have to obtain assistance? Will you pay?"

"No, sir, I will not pay. When my sisters can go to prison for breaking the law, cannot I do something? Take your inventory."

We did so. What furniture, jewellery, furs! It was getting dusk when we finished, so the guv'nor says:

"I must leave my man here, and I warn you that you must treat him as an instrument of the law.

The little one drew herself up to her full height, and said:

"Go, sir, and keep your commands for your own sex."

"Susan," says Miss Attaway, "take this specimen down to the kitchen and give him all the food he requires, and if he likes he can have No. 4 room."

"No, thank you, lady," I says, "I'll take your food, but not your No. 4 room. This kitchen will do for me."

No. 4 room was at the top of the house. So down I goes to the kitchen and sat down to as good a tea as anyone ever had. Thinking to make pals with Susan, I says:

"A rum lot, Sue?"

"What do you mean by calling me Sue? You remnant," she says. "Eat your tea, and understand that I look upon you as an evil. You are a man. You are one of the instruments of these cursed laws made by men."

The little 'un had been listening, and in she pops.

"God bless you, Susan, for your bravery. So you would intrigue with my maid, would you, you misfit?"

"Look at her, mam," I says.

"Don't call me mam!" she holloas.

"All right, miss," I says. "But what I want to say, if you'll let me, is that I've got the law of England on my side, and if you tries any of your tricks on me, I'll open the window and blow this whistle for a policeman."

"Why, Susan," she says. "Oh, if Miss Maddison were only here to-night, how she would laugh! He's frightened, this thing that has a vote. Tell me," she says, "where would man have been without woman?"

"In Paradise," I said. You ought to have heard her laugh. "Yes," I says; "why, you're the most selfish people in the world, you women. Who takes the garden seats on the outside of the 'bus when it's fine and wants the inside when it's wet? You who want all the chivalry shown you, and call us worms."

"Susan," she said, "come upstairs and I will read you Mary's article on our emancipation, and when dear Miss Maddison comes to-morrow with the rest, we shall have such a specimen to show her. Good-night, you worm."

The kitchen was only some nine steps down from the reception-room, so I could hear their buzzing. Presently the reading stopped, and my hair nearly stood on end, when I heard the little 'un say:

"It's very awkward. If they had only come on Thursday, instead of to-day. Now there's the committee meeting to-morrow, at 7.30. Here is dear Miss Maddison's letter to say that she will reach Paddington at 6, and arrive here at 6.30 in a cab. The committee is the most important of the year. We draw up a plan of campaign, and, oh! Susan, Holloway will not be half large enough to hold us when we start, and here is this worm. I was going to make up three beds in the kitchen to-morrow night, as the committee will not be over until 2 o'clock in the morning. Susan, he must be got rid of. It must and shall be done." Then they fell a-whispering, and I fell a-sweating. I went to the window and saw it was all right. Area steps. I makes up my mind for trouble. Keeps my clothes on all night, and, waking and dozing, the night passed away. It must have been about 7 o'clock when down comes Susan.

"Good-morning," she says, quite nice, and by-and-bye I sits down to the finest breakfast I ever enjoyed.

In comes the little 'un.

"Good-morning, sir," she says. "I hope you rested well, and have enjoyed yourself."

"Perfectly, miss," I said; all my suspicions had passed away. When lunch time arrived, in comes Susan.

"Sir," says she, "my mistress would be honoured by your presence at lunch."

"Thanks," I says, and into the dining-room I goes and sits down like a guest at the table. And then she says as nice as possible, "A glass of wine, sir?"

"Thanks, miss," I says. She pours out one too, and holding it up to her lips, says, "Your health, sir."

"Same to you, miss," I says, and we gulped it down. Just as I put my glass down, Susan, who was standing behind her, gives a scream.

"What is the matter? Oh, miss, what have you done?"

"I have taken poison, and given that worm poison as well. Tell the sisters I died, blessing the cause."

Guv'nor, I fancied from inside information that all was not right with me. Better wine I never tasted, and yet sure enough she was dying. Guv'nor, how she wriggled, groaned. Susan started, tears running down her cheeks.

Then she turned to me, and said, "Oh, man, man, for pity's sake go to the corner of the turning just six doors from here. Tell Dr. Fred to come at once."

By this time, guv'nor, I were feeling properly bad, so I gets to the street-door. Susan says, "Go man, God bless you, just six doors at once," and bang goes the door and bolts were shot, and, guv'nor, if you had heard the laughing, the little 'un in particular. I banged at the door and the little 'un called through the keyhole: "A thing like you has got the vote, eh, Mr. Broker's man?" I walked down the steps and cursed my folly. All of a sudden I remembers that my lady Maddison was going to arrive at 6.30. I goes round to the barber, gets the moustache off and the old woman togs me up, and my own mother wouldn't have known me, and to complete the picture, she put over my face a heavy black veil. It was now half-past five, and I hails a passing growler. You should have seen the driver stare. You ought to have heard him laugh as I asked him if he knew the street. Now we had got to the door, the little 'un was there, bless her, with the door wide open and thirteen or fourteen of them standing on the top of the steps. I got out only to be met, and almost lifted up the steps amid cries of "*You dear*, so good of you to come, you love." I was on the top step when I heard Susan scream, but it was too late; I was inside. Off came my veil. "Now," I says, "I'm the man in possession by all that is true." You should have seen them look and stare at me. The little 'un sighed, and, guv'nor, will you believe it, before a half-an-hour passed, she paid me the bill and out I went.

## "JOHN BULL'S" TOPICAL CATECHISMS.—III.

BY WALTER MOORE.

### FOR THE USE OF THE BLIND.

*Q.* What is an Education Bill?

*A.* A weapon wherewith the different religious denominations take it in turns to belabour one another.

*Q.* How is it related to Education?

*A.* In so far as it educes, or draws out, the true character of the so-called religious.

*Q.* What is a Socialist?

*A.* One who wears a red tie until he can afford some other colour.

*Q.* Is that all?

*A.* No; a Socialist is also one who advocates the bringing down to his own level of all classes above him in the social scale.

*Q.* Does the Socialist believe that there are others above him in the social scale?

*A.* He does not; it's their money he wants.

*Q.* What is a Licensing Bill?

*A.* An instrument designed to induce people to get drunk in their homes and clubs rather than take moderate refreshment in public-houses.

*Q.* Has it any other purpose?

*A.* Yes; it is also intended to discourage walking on Sundays.

*Q.* How so?

*A.* By compelling a man to walk twelve miles under protest rather than six miles with enjoyment.

*Q.* Is that all?

*A.* No; it also undertakes to recover to the "people" in twenty-one years something which its constructors say *has never existed*.

*Q.* What is the House of Lords?

*A.* In the opinion of some it is a kind of Lunatic Asylum reserved for the accommodation of the nobility.

*Q.* Is there any foundation for this opinion?

*A.* Yes; because it is largely recruited from the ranks of those who abuse it most.

*Q.* What is a Cabinet Minister?

*A.* One who knows more about all the other departments of government than about his own; also one who visits Germany to find out the best way to do something that he *already has done badly*.

*Q.* What is a Suffragette?

*A.* A grown-up female child who imagines that by screaming loud enough and long enough she can get what she wants.

*Q.* What does she want?

*A.* The privilege of marking a cross on a piece of paper once or more every six years or so.

*Q.* Is there a House of Ladies?

*A.* No; but there is Holloway Jail.

*Q.* What is a Grille?

*A.* A somewhat cumbersome ornament now affected by the screaming sisterhood.

### MY LOVE.

Though I have work to do,
Thou would'st hold me;
Though I have miles to go,
Thou would'st fold me
In thy strong arms so soft,
So gently pressing;
In thy embrace so oft,
Gently caressing.
Soon I'll return to thee;
Dark day or fair,
For oh! how I yearn for thee
Dear old arm-chair!

W. E. H.

THE COMPARATIVE IMPORTANCE OF MERE MAN, FROM THE FEMALE SUFFRAGIST'S POINT OF VIEW.

THE COMPARATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE FEMALE SUFFRAGIST, FROM MERE MAN'S POINT OF VIEW, WHICH IS PROBABLY THE CORRECT ONE.

## WORDS THAT HAVE WANDERED.

BY RALPH DURAND.

Just as the English shilling and the American dollar are mingled with Belgian francs in the tills of the Antwerp ship chandlers, so words that originated in many different parts of the world are brought to England by her younger sons and eventually become incorporated into their mother tongue. Such words as *mulligatawny*, *coolie*, *shampoo*, and *toddy*, brought home from the East by Indian nabobs, are now as good English as words derived from the Anglo-Saxon, such as *hearth* and *home*, and newer words such as *pukka* and *ju-jitsu* are rapidly becoming acclimatised.

In their leisure moments grammarians delight to catalogue these words and label them according to what they suppose are their original sources. These scholars make quaint mistakes sometimes. Archbishop Trench, for instance, the author of "Notes on the Study of Words," gravely states that we owe the words *kraal* and *assegai* to South African dialects. Who ever heard a South African native talk in his own tongue about a *kraal* or an *assegai*? *Kraal* is of Portuguese origin and is first cousin to the Spanish cord *corral*, an inclosure. *Assegai* certainly is of African lineage, but it originates not in Natal but in Morocco. The Portuguese who fought the Moors in the fifteenth century learned from them to call a spear *zagayah*, and on their way round the African coast applied the word *azagayah* or *assagai* to every African-made spear.

There is a delightful passage in Bent's "Ruined Cities of Mashonaland": "Some of the words in common use among the Kaffirs in Mashonaland are very curious. Anything small, whether it be a child or to indicate that the price paid for anything is insufficient, they term *piccanini*." *Piccaninny* is, perhaps, the most used word in the combined languages of the world, for wherever two nations finding it difficult to understand each other have compromised by inventing a bastard dialect, such as pidgin-English, kitchen-Kafir, or Lingua Franca, the word *piccaninny* has been adopted. It cannot now be classified as belonging to any particular language except perhaps English, but it is doubtless descended from the Portuguese *piquena*—small (from which printers get the name *pica* for small type). It was brought to its existing form by West Indian and American negroes, who probably had it from the Portuguese slave-traders who transported them across the Atlantic. The "Kaffir" who used it in talking to Bent, no doubt supposed that he was using an English word, and Bent seems to have thought that he had tracked this much-used word to its original source. *Kaffir*, by the way, is an objectionable word, for no two people using it in conversation can be absolutely sure that they mean the same thing. Of two English-speaking persons who use the word one might use it to mean a member of the small Ama-Xosa tribe in Natal and the other might apply it to any Bantu-speaking inhabitant of South or Central Africa, whereas an Arab would apply it to anyone black or white who is not a Mohammedan, for the word *Kaffir* means an unbeliever.

No one who has visited South Africa is unfamiliar with the word *shelm*, which is applied indifferently to a dangerous animal, an offensive insect or a human scoundrel. Questioned as to its origin few would hesitate to say that the word belongs purely to the Taal dialect, the Afrikander-Dutch of the Boers, and yet the word is not only English, but Parliamentary English. During the Civil Wars, Sir Richard Granvill, who accepted money from the Parliamentarians and then went over to the Royalists, was denounced in Parliament, by solemn proclamation, as "Traitor, Rogue, Villain and Skellum." Samuel Pepys heard the same epithet applied from the pulpit to John Calvin, and Burns uses the word in his "Tam o' Shanter."

Most men who have been in the East, in Australia, or wherever the "heathen Chinee" has settled, have seen the tinsel-decorated joss-houses in which the Chinese worship, and it is safe to say that many of these suppose the word *joss* to be of Chinese origin instead of, as it really is, the pidgin-English corruption of the Portuguese *Deus*—God. Pidgin-English, by the way, is "business-English," *business* becoming *pidgin* in the neutral language used by Chinese and Englishmen in their mutual intercourse. The Chinese, it is said, are by nature such honest folk that they had no word for thief until they came into contact with Europeans. Their pidgin-English word for thief is *lallyloo*, which is said to be a corruption of the Portuguese *ladrone*. Of European origin, too, are the Anglo-Indian word *caste* (from Portuguese *casta*—a race or breed) and the Anglo-West African words *fetish* (from Portuguese *fetico*) and *juju* (from French *joujou*, a toy or doll).

Some words have been preserved in Australia that have dropped out of use in England, such as *pad*, a path, which is now used rarely and only in such compounds as foot-pad. In Australia, the phrase "as mad as a hatter" has some meaning. A hatter is a man who lives a lonely, isolated life (the word is probably connected with hut). There are many such in Australia, especially on the abandoned gold-fields, and, as a rule, their behaviour is distinctly eccentric.

The word *calumet* (the peace-pipe) is popularly supposed to be American Indian in origin, but it is probably more properly derived from the Latin *calamus*—a shepherd's pipe which the Red Indian ceremonial pipe resembled in shape, through the French *chalumeau*. The negroes of the West Indies, originally drawn from too many different parts of Africa to preserve their own native languages, and not sufficiently educated to learn the language of their masters, have evolved a language which is a grotesque imitation of English. How far it is from the original may be judged from the following extracts from the Negro-English Bible used in Surinam:—

*Bikasi Gado ben lobbi ala soema so, tee a gi da wanlobbi Pikien vo hem abra.* (For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.)

And,

*Dem hitti netti na ina watra bikasi dem de fisiman.* (They cast a net into the water because they were fishermen.)

The one word in these extracts which is certainly not of English origin is *Pikien* (son, child, from the Portuguese *piquena*), which in other parts has become *piccaninny*.

## "THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION."

Apparently there is to be an International Exhibition of some kind in Paris during the spring, and it will be entirely the fault of British firms if they don't seize the opportunity of securing gold medals and other awards. How easy the thing is will be seen from the following letter, which has been received by a firm of brewers, who have been good enough to forward it to us:—

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OFFICES.
52, Devonshire Street,
Portland Place,
London, W.
*January 1st*, 1909.

DEAR SIRS,—I beg to draw your attention to the Great INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF ALIMENTATION—FOOD, HEALTH AND HYGIENE—which will be held at PARIS at the JARDIN DES TUILERIES, in APRIL and MAY, 1909,

UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF
THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE,
THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL DE LA SEINE,
THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF PARIS.

I propose that you should partake at this INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION by showing your "Beers" under the following very favourable terms.

A commercial office at the Exhibition Building, and under my own supervision, undertakes to arrange your Exhibit, supply your show-case and all other necessary fittings, and represent you both before the public and also before the jury, *and make sure that you will be awarded for your Exhibit* FIRST HONOURS GRAND PRIX *or* GOLD MEDAL.

You will understand that your Exhibit will be seen by many hundred-thousand visiting the Exhibition, *and that an award obtained means an everlasting advertisement for the quality of your goods.*

The space of one square yard, including the necessary show-case, fittings, decoration, and the representation before the public and jury amounts only to the net sum *of £25, to be paid the first half on allotment and the balance on receipt of the* OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE OF AWARD FOR GRAND PRIX *or* GOLD MEDAL.

(For every additional square yard space £5 is charged).

I shall be pleased to give you any further particulars, and awaiting your esteemed reply,

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
THE COMMISSIONER FOR GREAT BRITAIN,
MAX KAISER,
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Sir J. Frederick Bridge, Hon. Doc., Gresham Professor of Music, Organist of Westminster Abbey:

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In this connection the coloured "mannikins" or "dummies," in which the various organs overlap each other precisely as they do in the human body, are very useful in making the reading matter clear.

The section devoted to "The Family Medicine Chest" gives the description, uses and doses of drugs, as drops, lotions, ointments and gargles.

The section dealing with cooking for Invalids gives a complete collection of valuable recipes.

Volume V. deals entirely with the Health and Diseases of Women. It will be found useful to mothers who wish their daughters to grow up into healthy women. Midwifery and the diseases of infants and children are fully treated.

It is safe to say that in a large household embracing human items of every age or sex, the point of doubt or difficulty, the unexpected accident or emergency, could not arise that could not be immediately and satisfactorily dealt with, with this splendidly practical work at hand. It saves its cost before it has been in use for a month.

## Two Opinions.

Mr. Wm. Webb, 102, Queensland Street, Liverpool:

"'The Modern Physician' ought to be in every household in the land, and it is certainly no fault of yours should it not be so, for the price at which it is published is reasonable, and the terms of subscription exceptionally easy."

Mr. A. H. Hart, 18, Seabury Park Road, Kingston-on-Thames:

"Three things especially impress me: Its up-to-date character, the simplicity of the language used, and its practical value. It is creditable alike to editor and publisher. I am proud to possess such a work."

## A FREE BOOKLET.

TO THE CAXTON PUBLISHING COMPANY,

CLUN HOUSE, SURREY STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, and without any obligation on my part, illustrated booklet on "The Modern Physician," and particulars of your plan whereby the five volumes are delivered for a first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance being paid by small monthly payments.

Name.....

(Send this form or a postcard, mentioning "John Bull.")

Address.....

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3. A Clerk's Opinion:

Mr. G. W. Marsh, Cashier, Finsbury Park Road, London, N.: "I have only had the 'Business Encyclopædia' a short time, but I have already found it very useful, especially in my capacity as Bookkeeper and Cashier."

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TO THE CAXTON PUBLISHING COMPANY,

CLUN HOUSE, SURREY STREET, STRAND, W.C.

Please send me, free of charge, a copy of the Practical Book and full particulars of the "Business Encyclopædia," and of your offer to deliver the complete work for a first payment of 1s. 6d., the balance being paid by a few small monthly payments.

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(Send this form or a postcard, mentioning "John Bull.")

Address.....

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## THE NATIONAL ANTI-VIVISECTION HOSPITAL.

We have received the following communication from the Rev. Lionel S. Lewis, of St. Mark's Vicarage, Whitechapel. It seems to us to require an answer—if there be an answer—from the controllers of the Metropolitan Hospital Fund.

My attention has been drawn to-day to your remarks in your issue of January 2nd, about the exclusion of the Battersea General Hospital—the National Anti-Vivisection Hospital—from the benefits of the Hospital Sunday Fund. Will you allow me, as the person who raised the question at the Mansion House meeting, but was ruled out of order, to speak through your columns? The matter is, as you say, one "of public importance." It is made still more so by the un-English gagging procedure of the Mansion House meeting. I had a perfect right to raise the question there. Law 1 of the Constitution says that congregations forwarding contributions should have "a voice in the management of the fund." As the minister of such a congregation I was summoned. In due course the adoption of the report was proposed and seconded. Surely it was then open for discussion. Otherwise why move its adoption at all? I rose to discuss it. I was ruled out of order, and told that I must move an amendment. I moved one—viz., that the report be referred back. This year's chairman, visibly and audibly influenced by last year's chairman, ruled me out of order. How, under such a *regime*, can the congregations have a voice in the management of the fund? The distribution committee is not appointed by the annual general meeting, but by the council (Law 3). We cannot show our disapproval of the distribution by seeking to appoint a new distribution committee. We may not criticise their action on the only occasion when we are called together. Under such a bureaucracy, Law 1 is a farce. The congregations have no voice in the management of the fund. I, a constituent of the fund, was treated as if I were a wanton disturber of other people's meetings, whereas the chairman ought to have protected my rights.

Having shown how necessary your help is under such circumstances, may I say, through your columns, some of the things which I wanted to say to my brother constituents at the Mansion House meeting?

This hospital, founded under an anti-vivisectionist trust, is the only general hospital within about three miles of Battersea, which has a population of about 200,000 people, mainly working-class. In 1907 (the last figures available) it treated 23,551 people. Its death-rate was only 4 per cent., and for 1908 will have proved lower. It is immensely beloved at Battersea. The Mayor, the Carmen and Labourers' Union, the Battersea Trade Council and other institutions have petitioned the Hospital Sunday Fund to help it. As a result of the refusal, the local inhabitants get up a carnival to support it. This hospital is splendidly equipped, its electrical department being especially good.

In a letter from the secretary, dated July 15th, 1907, there appears to be some attempt to argue that the hospital is not a general one. This has evidently been abandoned, for this year's report of the council of the fund (p. 89) includes it under "*General* Hospitals" in the list of its awards—with the word "nil" against it; and would it be believed that a special supplement to the *Lancet* (p. 3), which enumerates the work done by London hospitals, issued, I think, last June (I have not got it by me), as a special appeal to support the Hospital Sunday Fund, includes the patients treated at this hospital under the work done at *general* hospitals, thus implying that it helps this general hospital? As the fund gives no grant to it, one charitably hopes that the claim of its work as a result of this fund is an inadvertence, but the fund is plainly satisfied that it is a general hospital.

But the most important statement in the same letter is as follows:—"By the rules of your governing body, the distribution committee understand your medical officers are forbidden to make use of some kinds of treatment, which in the opinion of the highest authorities in medicine, in all parts of the civilised world, have been proved to possess valuable curative powers. The lay governing body, therefore, imposes restrictions as to treatment on its medical staff." This is the crux of the matter round which the battle rages. Vivisectional remedies are not used. On this point it is as well to point out that a paper of no less standing than the *Medical Times*, on December 5th last, strongly condemning the action of the distribution committee towards this hospital, says: "The fact that vivisection remedies—remedies *which as yet are on their trial*—are not used, surely cannot be held as sufficient to disqualify. If so, *what about the Temperance Hospital, where the pharmacopœial remedies containing alcohol are tabooed, and the Homœopathic Hospital where allopathic medicines are anathematised?* These medical charities, we believe, obtain grants from the various hospital funds, and surely it will not be contended that the Anti-Vivisection Hospital (Battersea General Hospital) is less orthodox than these?" (The italics are mine.)

The action of the distribution committee is as arrogant as it is, I contend, unlawful under the laws of the constitution. Every single physician or surgeon connected with the hospital is a properly qualified person, and holds his or her degree from their college. The medical council has never seen fit to interfere with their using their healing powers as seems best to them after having received the necessary education. But this distribution committee goes behind these universities, colleges, and the medical council. Of whom then does it consist? Would it be believed that in 1908 there were only three members out of twelve who had medical degrees, and as two of these were surgeons, who certainly would not lay down the law as to medicinal remedies, there only remains one physician, Sir William Church? His influence must be truly papal. It is worth noticing that while the Hospital Saturday Fund gives a grant to this hospital, the King Edward's Hospital Fund, on which Sir William Church also sits, refuses it.

It is for the charitable public to say whether they intend to lend a hand to a medical persecution. Whether vivisection be right or wrong, whether it be wise or foolish to use vivisectional remedies, is a matter of opinion. A general hospital doing a beneficent work, and complying with the laws of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund Constitution ought not to be excluded from its awards, because the doctors of the hospital differ in moral and medical opinion from the doctor who sits on the distribution committee of the fund.

## "JOHN BULL" AND ITS ADVERTISERS.

The following correspondence speaks for itself:—

8 and 9, Stonecutter Street, London, E.C.,
January 7th, 1909.

John Bull, Limited.

Gentlemen,—In your issue of January 2nd, on page 20, I note the following comment:—"F.W.E., New Cross. We do not recommend the Rice Cure for rupture. Better eat the rice."

I am unable to understand why you put this comment in your columns, and at the same time you accept our advertising and expect us to pay for it. I notice in your issue of 9th our advertisement appears on page 50. I think this is manifestly unfair to us, and I shall certainly refuse to pay a single penny for this advertisement unless something is done to offset the paragraph in the issue of January 2nd.

I certainly believe that you intend to be perfectly fair in any criticisms you might make, and I trust that this is simply an oversight on the part of some of your employees.

Trusting this matter will have immediate attention,

Very truly yours,
William S. Rice, R.S., Ltd.
H. A. Stone,
Managing Director.

John Bull Editorial Offices,
67, Long Acre, London, W.C.,
January 8th, 1909.

Messrs. Wm. S. Rice, Ltd.,
8 and 9, Stonecutter Street, E.C.

Gentlemen,—Your letter of the 7th, addressed to John Bull, Ltd., has been brought before me.

I am sorry we cannot regulate our editorial comments by a reference to our advertising pages.

I have also before me a letter of yours, dated the 1st inst., addressed to our Advertising Department, and, having now had my attention specifically called to the matter, I think the best course will be for any uncompleted advertising orders to be cancelled, and I shall be glad to know that you are agreeable to this course.

Yours faithfully,
The Editor.

### AN UNPROFITABLE HOME EMPLOYMENT.

An unemployed reader came across an advertisement of the "Gerrard Manufacturing Co. (A. Gerrard, sole proprietor)" for stencil-cutters. He says he "wrote and got all the necessary information, but principally 1s. 4d. must be forwarded." This was sent, and in return were received two slips of thick paper (one marked "2s. per doz." and the other "2s. 6d. per doz."—the sizes varying slightly), bearing simple designs to be cut out and a handbill of "rules and instructions." Beyond the prices stamped upon the designs, there is no undertaking to purchase the stencils—the handbill, in fact, stating that they are merely "to be sent in for inspection"—but, inasmuch as our correspondent says that the most that can be cut out in a day is four, probably the point does not often arise in actual practice. We shall keep our eye on Mr. Gerrard.

## OUR WEEKLY BALLOT SCHEME.

### SPECIAL NOTICE.

After the end of the present month, this scheme will be entirely reorganised. Numbers will be drawn weekly in respect of the previous week's issue, and, instead of having to undertake canvassing, the holders of the drawn numbers will be asked to assist us in another, and novel, manner—involving no encroachment upon their spare time or present occupation.

## "THE REAL CANADA."

The following is the answer from a reader of JOHN BULL, resident in Canada, and writing to us from Toronto, to the article under this heading written by A. Claude Brown, and to be found in our issue of December 5th, 1908. The writer signs himself "A Contented Englishman":—

"DEAR SIR,—I frequently receive JOHN BULL from my friends in the Old Country. Your periodical is always interesting, and, as a rule, gives evidence of fair criticism relating to the topics under discussion. Yet your article referring to 'Real Canada,' on page 596 of your issue for December 5th, 1908, is, to my mind and experience, not up to your usual standard of broad-mindedness.

"True, this is a country for hustling, where a man has to 'get a move on,' and clean his own boots; the shack 10ft. by 7ft., the 'wild and woolly West,' and other *cons* you mention, do exist; yet, show me the country in this world where *pros* and *cons* do not always exist in every walk of life; it was the Creator's intention that this mortal life should not be a 'bed of roses' or a 'hell upon earth.'

"This country is freer and the chances of success more frequent than in England, and if an Old Countryman has clean grit and sharp sand in him, he will soon worry through the methods of doing things here.

"I followed the architectural profession when in England, and am continuing to do so here with greater success than I should do if I were in the Old Country. I was for months at home seeking a position, forming one of the 250 or 300 after a 30s. a week job. Here I am receiving £4 a week (20 dollars), and have been doing so for weeks past, and doing the same work as I should be doing if I were in England. True, I've had 'ups' and 'downs,' but principally 'ups.' What successful men has not had knocks? When I have had to leave situations through slackness of work, I have, on five successive occasions, been at work again before the Wednesday in the week following.

"People here do not wait till a man has one foot in the grave before he is given responsibility. As an instance, may I quote a personal experience, which is, that I have acted as the architect for buildings varying from 5,000 dollars to 30,000 dollars, working chiefly in my spare time.

"The climate is ideal; the mosquitoes in summer are not half so bad as is imagined by people who have never set foot in Canada. We get it cold in winter, but it is invigorating and healthy compared with the grey skies and fogs of England. We have had, on the average, sunshine every day for the past two months or more. Can you beat that? No, sir, Canada for me.

"Possibly I may be too optimistic; if so, it is a fault that one should have if they intend to succeed in Canada; pluck, grit, patience, and tenacity of purpose are the chief features of a man's character who intends to succeed here. Fellows who want to go home and put their feet under Pa's table directly they get a knock or feel homesick had better stay at home and help mother in the house.

"During my fifteen months in Canada I have, owing to the nature of my profession, come in contact with employers, and repeatedly have I had Canadian contractors tell me that when they get hold of a good hustling English mechanic they value his services most highly. Unfortunately, the scum of the professional unemployed come here who are no good in England—here, or anywhere outside of the grave—hence the repeated insertion 'No English need apply' when a vacant position is advertised.

"So long as a man can 'deliver the goods,' he can usually get work here, but, for heaven's sake, keep at home the 'loafers'; it's pitiable to see some of them loitering about here. Don't choke up a young country with such rubbish of humanity.

"I could continue at length to write comparisons between English and Canadian life, but at the end of it all I should give my vote for Canada; so will close, but, before doing so, I may state that I am prepared to substantiate my remarks to the utmost.

"Don't get too pessimistic about Canada; it's a great country and requires men of the same character as those who came here thirty years ago, and are now prosperous business men.

"Tell the English people to get out of the rut, and for yourself, 'smile, damit, smile.'

"'A Happy and Prosperous New Year to us all.'

"I enclose my card."


# ASTOUNDING BARGAINS IN BLANKETS.

We are clearing up after the most successful Blanket Season we ever experienced, and can afford to let the balance of our stock go at giving-rates, to make way for the new Spring Goods. All Sale records are smashed by this amazing offer. This is absolutely the greatest 10/6 worth ever seen, and you will say so when you see this wonderful **Parcel of Superb Quality White Blankets.**

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***Contents of this grand big Surplus Blanket Parcel as follows—***

No. 1.—One Pure White Witney Blanket, superb quality, full double-bed size, soft, warm, comfortable and durable, size about 90 by 70 ins.
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No. 4.—One Pure White Velour Under-Blanket. Wear and Washing Quality guaranteed, size about 46 ins. by 66 ins.
No. 5.—One Pure White Cot Blanket, rich soft make, very durable, with pretty blue border.
No. 6.—One Pure White Soft, Heavy Quality, Warm and Comfortable, Fine Blanket, size about 52 ins. by 70 ins.

The Lot Carriage Paid to any address in United Kingdom for 10/6. Carriage Paid in two lots of 30/-. Shipping Orders Carriage Paid to port of export and shipped cheapest possible route.

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## AMONG THE BOOKS.

By Herbert Vivian.

"The Great Miss Driver," by Anthony Hope (Methuen: 6s.), has the usual Anthony Hopeful characters, transplanted into an English country neighbourhood. Instead of a princess we have a self-made man's daughter, who has not been allowed to come near the property until his decease. Her story is told by one of those blindly-devoted adherents such as Mr. Hope always stations on the footsteps of a throne, ready to sacrifice everybody and everything for the sake of the Cause, nor ever expecting any return. Whenever he receives a smile or a pat he wags his tail furiously for the rest of the chapter. The indiscretions of the heroine are ingeniously worked out. That goes without saying. But her impulsiveness and vagaries are somewhat overdone; indeed, at times they are almost wearisome, and, though I enjoyed the book as a whole, I must confess that it sent me to sleep more than once. Mr. Hope is by no means at his best. Perhaps, like the rest of us, he is growing old.

"The Square Mile," by Horace W. C. Newte (Rivers: 6s.), is so intensely human and natural that one goes on reading with avidity, although the characters themselves are anything but attractive or interesting. This fact serves to emphasise Mr. Newte's real cleverness, and I hope that some day he may try his hand on a more cheerful subject. He gives us infinite details, and I am bound to say that they are nearly all of them to the point in constructing a vivid picture of people and places. His chief defect is that he allows himself to become a vehement partisan instead of holding the balance impartially between his puppets. I suppose he would describe his story as the tragedy of a bank clerk, and he never tires of elaborating what he evidently considers the patient courage and self-sacrifice of his hero. For my part, I could not help thinking all the while that the man had himself to blame for most of his troubles. No doubt, as is pointed out, he has the instincts of a beaver, "which, directly his dam is damaged, immediately sets about repairing it, no matter how often this destructive process be repeated." But he does not take reasonable precautions to prevent the recurrence of the catastrophe. I quite agree with Mr. Newte that the wife is lazy, extravagant, dishonest, and utterly incompetent as a housekeeper, but the tame way in which the husband submits to everything inspires contempt rather than sympathy. And Mr. Newte is much too spiteful. He has no patience with the harmless little affectations of the poor clerks who call their tiny villas "Chatsworth" and "Kamchatka," who have their small prejudices about smoking pipes in the street, who talk in millions while haggling over the price of a cup of coffee, or who go to dances and put their programme pencils behind their ears. Sometimes he is almost actuated by personal enmity, as though he had put an unfriendly neighbour into his book. Thus:—

> She made a great to do at changing her evening shoes for her walking boots in the hall, telling the men not to look, although none of them wanted to.
>
> Finally, the matter of her going home by herself was settled by kindly Mr. and Mrs. Tilly going a mile out of their way in order that the elderly virgin should suffer no risk of molestation.

I must also protest against the monstrous statement that "indifference to animals' sufferings is an unpleasant trait in the Cornishman's character."

"Imperial Richenda," by Rosamond Langbridge (Rivers: 6s.), is the most stupid, pointless, vulgar book I have ever read. It is evidently intended to be a farce, but may be warranted to induce profound melancholy even in the most joyful minds. The plot turns on the appearance of what is intended to be a real lady as waitress in an hotel, but, after plodding right through the book, I have failed to discover any explanation of that ineptitude. I notice that the author makes someone say "culchured." I should like to ask her how else she imagines the word should be pronounced. I am reminded of the idiots who think they are representing an Irish accent by writing "shure," as though anyone in his senses ever dreamed of pronouncing "sure" just as it is spelt.

Will be Published Shortly.

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# THE LAST WORD ON KRUGER'S "MILLIONS."

## THE HISTORY OF A PRACTICAL JOKE.

The famous myth of Kruger's lost millions is recalled by the sale of the *Alfred Nobel* recently to a large salvage firm of Kiel, Messrs. Kolbe and Co. This vessel, which is well known among seafaring men as being specially well adapted for salvage work, was originally bought from the firm of Nobel and Co. by the South African Salvage Company, and fitted out by them at a cost of £26,000, including purchase money, for salvage work on the African coast generally, and for the recovery of Kruger's alleged millions in particular, on the advice of Captain Gardner.

From first to last the undertaking appears to have been a failure. The *Alfred Nobel* made her way via the Suez Canal to the East Coast, and after a few pieces of salvage work, in one of which she is said to have recovered a thousand pounds' worth of old china from the wreck of a Spanish galleon, an attempt was made to explore the wreck of the *Dorothea* off Zululand and to recover Kruger's "millions."

The diving operations were carried out apparently by Captain Gardner himself, no regular professional divers being on board the *Alfred Nobel*, and although the wreck was located and visited, presumably by Captain Gardner, bad weather put a speedy end to the operations, and the vessel proceeded to Cape Town, where Captain Gardner left her. She subsequently returned to London without him, and was sold under an order from a mortgagee.

The whole affair is but a fresh instance of the eagerness with which the public fasten on to any wild scheme that holds out a promise of getting rich quick without trouble. The whole myth of Kruger's sunken millions has always been laughed at by all seafaring men who frequent those waters, and it bore the mark of extreme improbability upon it from the start. In the first place, it is in the last degree improbable that a man of Kruger's astuteness would have entrusted gold to the value of a million, as was stated, to an old wooden sailing vessel, such as the *Dorothea*, which was, moreover, notoriously badly unseaworthy, and to make her loss all the more probable, under such conditions, carrying a cargo of cement. The whole story, which was soberly repeated all over the world as a fact, originated in the brain of a prominent South African miner and prospector (Jim Benson), a notorious practical joker, and in the first instance consisted in a joke played by him at Delagoa Bay during the latter part of the war, with the assistance of some other miners, who were killing time there also, at the expense of a local newspaper man on the look-out for sensations. Noticing him, the practical joker in question (Jim Benson) started a conversation by saying, "I hear that Oom Paul got his bars on to the *Dorothea* all right"—that vessel having just sailed in ballast of cement for South America—"and that they had to cement them into the hold to prevent the crew pinching any of them." The other miners took up the cue and the story was worked up, the journalist in question taking it all in, and when he had heard enough, he wrote out the story as he had heard it, and in a very short time it had gone all over the world, finally bearing fruit in the ill-fated South African Salvage Company. The groundlessness of the canard becomes all the more glaring when one considers that the *Dorothea* was wrecked about 1901, while the *Alfred Nobel* did not start on her expedition till 1907, six years after the story became public property. Had the gold been really hidden under the cement ballast of the *Dorothea* the wreck would have been located and cleared of all its contents within a very short time by one of the many expert salvage firms in South Africa itself, without waiting for the formation of a syndicate in London.

Gardner was a despatch rider to Lord Roberts during the war. He heard of the story, and when the war was over, investigated it, or is supposed to have done so, and located the wreck. He then came to London in due course, and on his information and guarantees the South African Salvage Company was floated.

This story was told us by Edward Else, who first heard of it when working for the A.M.B. Relief Corps at Southampton during the South African war. It was at that time a standing joke among all seafaring men whom he met, and not long ago he met James Benson at Amsterdam, when the latter told him the story as set down in detail.


# CONDEMNED!

## WORLD-RENOWNED SPECIALIST'S EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE.

### HOW HE CAME BACK FROM THE BRINK.

Perhaps the most difficult task that can be set you is to endeavour to imagine, if you are healthy, the feeling of the man or woman who, leaving the doctor's sanctum, is condemned as "Incurable."

Yet one of the world's most romantic histories arose from such a case, and the extraordinary features that have made the case world-famous are well worth recounting.

It is, of course, known that of all illnesses that affect the body, chest and lung troubles are the most insidious. Once they have gripped hold of man or woman it takes something more than ordinary skill to effect a release.

Professor Paul Weidhaas, whose words are now recognised as the most authoritative on certain scientific subjects, was once seriously troubled with chest and lung weakness, and like thousands of others, after proceeding through the usual course was condemned as incurable.

He had to get home to his mind the terrible fact that life was to contain no joy for him, no hope; that every pleasure would taste as ashes in his mouth. Every day was to be a black day, and week by week the miserable illness would tighten its grip.

Just imagine the awful prospect?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

What would you do in such a despairing case? Why, commit any deed rather than suffer such mental and physical agony.

But it appears that Professor Weidhaas was made of something more than ordinary clay. He had a dreadful problem to tackle, and tackle it he did.

He started out condemned as incurable, and in a few months after forsaking old and conventional ideas, definitely worked at his cure.

But this is not the most fascinating part of his story, for not only did he himself come back from the brink, but by giving his experience to the world has allowed every sufferer from asthma, bronchitis, chest or lung troubles to know where there is hope when others have been condemned.

Although Professor Weidhaas's story is extremely, fascinatingly romantic, yet there has been a truly practical outcome to his efforts, for, thanks to his work, combined with that of Mr. Richard Haynel, we have now established in this country not only a splendid Institute for the administration of the Weidhaas Treatment, but actually what is more important, it is now possible for every ailing person to adopt the Weidhaas Treatment in the home.

ALL SHOULD KNOW THIS.

Professor Weidhaas was not content to work out his own cure, but desired that all asthmatics and those with weak chest and lungs should also be cured.

In co-operation with Mr. Richard Haynel he established the home treatment referred to, which all may adopt with every prospect of a speedy cure resulting.

What then is this wonderful Weidhaas Home Nature Treatment for asthma, bronchitis, &c.?

Although space forbids us here debating on its value and giving full particulars, it is possible to place every reader of JOHN BULL directly and personally in contact with Mr. Richard Haynel, who will explain fully the whole curative process.

We may say at once that Mr. Haynel has prepared a wonderfully interesting book which, whilst being a practical treatise on chest, throat and lung troubles, is also a practical guide to the sufferer.

This book will be sent free of charge to all who are ailing, and who are absolutely earnest in their endeavour to obtain a cure.

It is quite necessary to point out here that the Weidhaas Nature Treatment is no faddist theory, but a natural scientific curative process that in a host of chronic cases has proved brilliantly successful in restoring health.

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Applications should be addressed to the Head Specialist, THE WEIDHAAS HYGIENIC INSTITUTE, 36L, Burgess Hill, Sussex.—[ADVT.]

## MOTOR CAR DRIVERS AND THE POLICE.

In our issue of December 12th, we invited the attention of the Home Secretary to what we described as "the hard case of the motor 'bus drivers who have been deprived of their licences as the result of conviction for exceeding the speed limit—contrary to the undertaking given some time ago that this double penalty should not be inflicted."

We have since received a visit from two drivers, who have put their cases before us in a very temperate way, and who, as it seems to us, have been very hardly treated. W. H. Dominey, of 20, Wymond Street, Putney, tells us that he has been an omnibus conductor and driver for eighteen years, and a mechanical power driver for seven. During the whole of that time his record has been excellent, and the police never had occasion to warn him or deal with him in any way until October 18th. 1906, when he was summoned for exceeding the speed limit. but the police admitted that he was not driving in a way dangerous to the public; and he says not only was he not exceeding the limit, but that he was actually crawling, and for a reason which his conductor, whose statement is before us, explains. Be that as it may, he was fined £2 and costs. With the utmost difficulty Dominey scraped together the sum required, and paid it. Three days afterwards his licence was taken away, and now he is looking in vain for work. He holds a County Council licence, but whilst this allows him to drive a private vehicle, or a commercial motor, it does not allow him to return to his old work.

The case of the second man, W. Jenkins, of Hammersmith, is almost on identical lines. Jenkins, like Dominey, has excellent references, and the police have nothing against him. He has been on the road for eleven years, and a mechanical power driver for several years. In June he was fined 20s. and costs for exceeding the speed limit. That was the only charge. On December 3rd he was fined again 20s. and costs for exceeding the speed limit, and on December 15th his licence was taken away. It will be noted that the offence of which these two men were found guilty on both occasions was the slightest known to the law. A motor driver may be charged with exceeding the speed limit, or with exceeding the speed limit in a way dangerous to the public safety, or wanton conduct—which means disregarding the instructions of the police—or with reckless driving. These two men were simply charged with exceeding the speed limit—a very venial offence, since anything like very considerable excess of the limit would come under another head; and without any instrument by which to guide them as to the speed, all they can do is to decide according to their judgment. Yet for the trivial offences named, Dominey and Jenkins have not only been punished severely in the way of fine, but punished a second time by having their licences taken away, and so the means of livelihood taken from them.

Some time ago the motor drivers made representations to a number of Members of Parliament with regard to the unfairness of first punishing them by taking them before a magistrate, and then punishing them again for the same offence by means of the Commissioner of Police withdrawing their licences. Statements were made in Parliament upon this representation, which was felt to be reasonable, and for a time the police refrained from interpreting a second conviction as justification for withdrawing the licence. Now they are reverting to the old methods, and we would very respectfully direct the Home Secretary's attention to the matter. We are sure Mr. Gladstone, who looks at these matters with a sympathetic eye, will see how unjust it is to respectable men, who have already been punished severely for very slight offences, to take away their licences and so deprive them of their means of livelihood, and we trust that when he has inquired into the matter he will see to it that the Chief Commissioner of Police is instructed to discontinue this very unjust procedure.

### TRADE NOTE.

We have received from Messrs. Chas. Letts and Co. a large assortment of their well-known diaries. From the waistcoat-pocket size to the large volume intended for the desk, they all give evidence of the greatest care in compilation, the information given in the various tables bound up with them being remarkably helpful. In addition, the insurance voucher presented with each diary is a means of considerable saving. We congratulate the old firm upon still maintaining its lead.

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## AMONG THE MUMMERS.

### SOME NEW PLAYS.

Great interest is being taken in the forthcoming play at the Gaiety—"The Girl at the Stores"; and rumour says that it will be one of the best things Mr. George Edwardes—who has offered us so many good shows—has ever done. Mr. E. has taken a larger share in the making of this piece than usual; but the authorship is ascribed modestly to "Cryptos." For its presentation all the most popular Gaiety favourites will be requisitioned, including Gertie Millar, "Teddy" Payne, and George Grossmith (junior). Meanwhile, several new plays and revivals have been put on at other houses, including "Henry of Navarre" at the New. I congratulate Mr. William Devereux, who is a capital actor as well as a workmanlike dramatist, on having made a thoroughly good melodrama out of a basis of more or less authentic history, his own lively imagination and the customary Terry-Neilson trimmings. "Henry of Navarre" is very like all the recent successes of Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Julia Neilson, with a difference. Marguerite of Valois in the flesh and spirit, I am sure, resembled Miss Julia Neilson less even than Miss Nellie Gwynne did, but the person of the same name in the bill at the New is very pleasant to look at and an extremely interesting young woman. So with our friend Henry, he has been worked up a bit and cut down a bit, and now he suits Mr. Fred Terry, or Mr. Terry suits him, down to the ground. And the amount of rush and bustle and excitement, *and* the number of curtains! One turns dizzy at the recollection of them, which is to say that "Henry of Navarre" will be another "Scarlet Pimpernel" for popularity.

### REVIVALS.

Miss Evelyn Millard has revived "Lady Ursula" at the Garrick, and is looking as young and handsome and romantic as she did when first playing the name-role some ten years ago; "Dorothy," after its trial in St. Martin's Lane, is now at the Waldorf, with Hayden Coffin and Arthur Williams in their old parts and many bright assistants; and "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace," Mr. Hubert H. Davies' best play, is again in the bill at the Criterion, with Miss Mary Moore in her first part, and Mr. Yorke Stephens instead of Sir Charles Wyndham. All these plays are well worth seeing; and especially so is "La Petite Bohemienne," the new musical panto. at the Alhambra, with Francois Thomé's music and the grace of La Belle Leonora as its chief attractions.

### THE OFFER OF MR. MANNERS.

I print below Mr. Charles Manners' offer to such of my readers as believe that they have the talent for grand opera:—

> I have read your paragraph on operatic aspirants in JOHN BULL with much interest, and, as shortly as I can now give you roughly, the easy way in which anyone can get up in our branch of the profession if there is any good in them. I hear applicants every morning between eleven and one in any theatre where I happen to be at the time. If they are successful in their examination, they have to learn the choruses of some seven or eight operas. The chorus of "Il Trovatore" ought to take a day or two days; the chorus of "Lohengrin" would, of course, take much longer; but any applicant should be able to learn the whole lot in certainly less than two months. They then inform me that they are ready to be examined by one of my conductors, without the book. If passed, they receive a company's agreement form in their turn, which gives them 30s. per week and their railway fare, and extra money for any small part they are called upon to do.
>
> Their future success depends wholly and solely on themselves for this simple reason. They would naturally be prepared to perform principal parts for one year at any rate, for half, we will say, what I am paying to other principals in a second or third company. Therefore, it stands to common-sense that I am not going to allow them to remain one second longer in the chorus than is, in my opinion, absolutely necessary.
>
> Only the few that are experienced opera singers know what comfortable and lucrative engagements there are to be had in this country in Grand Opera if anyone is experienced. For instance, at the present moment I want an experienced "Carmen," and am quite prepared to give £20 or £30 for her. I am afraid there is not one that you can suggest in this country. Yet since last September I have heard some half-dozen pretty women—"Carmen" features, temperament and voice—and all promising to be fine artists in this *role* eventually. In the meantime I cannot afford to teach them their business and pay them such a salary as they cannot get anywhere else on the chance (no matter how probable) that they will turn out satisfactory. As they won't learn their profession in the same way as I did and the majority of principal opera singers do (and like, you may say, all Continental artists), by going into the chorus and beginning at the beginning, as anyone else does in any other profession under the sun, I am afraid that my search for a "Carmen" is hopeless.
>
> It is an astonishing thing to me why so many people go in for three, four, five and six years' study before they come to a manager; and why so many people go to agents of any kind, when they can so easily nowadays, first of all, have the opinion of a man like myself, who is only too glad to pay anyone, and teach them for nothing, if they show the slightest sign of future success. After hearing a girl, if I offer her a position in my company, that shows her that it is her own fault, wholly and solely, if she is not a principal in a year's time. That girl can go away, and work and act on an opinion which may possibly be wrong, but is, at any rate, backed up by experience and unbiassed. If I tell a girl that, in my opinion, she has no voice at all, the poor thing then, with tears in her eyes, very often tells me she has had four or five years' tuition! If she had only come to me before the tuition, she would have had her eyes opened to possibilities, if nothing more.

Now, ladies, consider this proposal, please, and let me know what you think of it; or never again write me pathetic letters asking me to introduce you to my managerial friends. P.

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# OPEN LETTERS, POST-CARDS, AND TELEGRAMS.

**To Sir Hubert Herkomer, Athenæum Club, London.**

Dear Herk,—I have read with much interest your expert remarks on the gambling in old masters which goes on in London salerooms. "Speculation" would, perhaps, have been a more appropriate word than gambling, but that is nothing. It is a fact well known that many of the auriferous gentlemen who give commissions for the purchase of pictures painted by the deadest artists known to fame can hardly distinguish an oleograph from an oil painting. What they want is something with a well-sounding name on it to hang upon their walls. If the name is that of an Italian or a Dutchman who has been dead and buried a few hundred years, and who in his day sold his canvas for an old song, a few thousand pounds, more or less, in the bidding for it is of no consequence at all. They do not pay their thousands for the picture for the love of art, or by way of encouraging art. They do not even buy it because the subject is beautiful; and, by-the-way, this is probably why so many old masters are fished out of coal cellars or dug from under dust-heaps.

For this class of man, my dear Herk, the artistic value of a picture becomes what a man is able and willing to pay for it; not while the artist is living, but after he has gone to fairer realms than this, where he does not paint for gruel and his palette gets a rest. Meanwhile, the prices of old masters is bid up higher and higher, while the native artist, slowly moving to the full expression of his talent or his genius, looks in vain for a patron to encourage him, or for an artists' colourman who will give him credit for a two-and-sixpenny tube of sunset yellow. Food being more than paint, or even raiment, he comes at last to be the hired pot-boiler of a man who makes picture frames of German-gilt mouldings.

How, in these circumstances, Sir Herk, shall an Englishman paint and live? It were almost better for him that he should seek sustenance by breaking stones on the King's highway. For your courage the poor and neglected artists of this country owe you many thanks. John Bull.

**To Rev. Robert F. Horton, M.A., Lyndhurst Road, Hampstead.**

Rev. Sir,—Nobody who is in close touch with his fellow men will doubt that you were right in telling the congregation at Bishopsgate Chapel that thousands of people go through life dreading that they may become poor or unable to earn their livelihood. It is this fear of the future in the hard stress of the present which shuts out from so many people the pleasure of being alive. How to be happy though living is about the hardest nut any of us gets to crack in this world, and it is pretty certain that if we lumber our minds with the notion that Providence sends us nuts and the devil gives us teeth we are going to have a pretty bad time of it. Most of us somehow manage to put up a bit of a fight against trouble when it comes, but there's a fairly large crowd of us who go and reach it down from the shelves of the middle-of-next-week.

I never see a man with his teeth chattering and his knees knocking and his hair upstanding before the shadow of the day after to-morrow without thinking of what John Graham, fabled porkman of Chicago, told his son. "I've always found worrying a blamed sight more uncertain than horse-racing," he said; "it's harder to pick a winner at it. You go home worrying because you're afraid that your fool new clerk forgot to lock the safe after you, and during the night the lard refinery burns down. You spend a year fretting because Bill Jones is going to cut you out with your best girl, and then you spend ten worrying because he didn't. You worry over Charlie at College because he's a little wild, and he writes that he's been elected president of the Y.M.C.A. You worry over William because he's so pious that you're afraid he's going out to China as a missionary, and he draws on you for a hundred. You worry because your business is going to smash, and your health busts up instead."

Fear of the future is just the curse of worry in the present. A man probably won't be in good fettle for keeping his job if he is for ever conjuring up the fear that he will lose it, and he hasn't a twopenny-ha'penny chance of becoming rich if he spends his time in mortal terror lest he should become poor. I am glad, sir, that you made a text of this fear business, though I don't know what your firstly, secondly, and thirdly made of it. But the above is about what I should have made of it myself if I had been up in your pulpit. Anyhow, I hope you told the congregation to take short views of life if they really wished to enjoy it. Even rent day is not here till it comes. John Bull.

**To the Rev. P. Shredanovitch, Butler, Pennsylvania.**

Dear Pastor,—You seem to have caused quite a sensation in your adopted country by the discovery that it is easier to travel standing still than by moving. In other words, you claim to have overcome the force of gravity, and by means of your invention, the traveller merely stands still—in the air—and allows the earth to rotate beneath him until the place he desires to reach turns up, when he drops down. The idea is good, but not quite original, perhaps. Surely you must have forgotten the perplexed gentleman who was discovered in the small hours of the morning, standing in the middle of the street, latchkey in hand? I like your notion, but there are little points about which I am doubtful. The earth, you know, is reputed to rotate at the rate of 19 miles *per second*. Have you ever jumped off a train travelling at 19 miles *per hour*? No doubt it would need practice, as would the art of hitting the right place. It appears to me that with the earth sliding by at that pace, it might be difficult to pick out one's destination, and get off before it got past. Even a good shot might land one only in the neighbour's conservatory, which would be an unceremonious way of dropping in on him. Moreover, to suddenly disconnect the gravity force would, I believe, be equivalent to hurling one's self against the atmosphere at the rate of 19 miles per second. I do not know precisely what would happen, but I fancy it would be something unpleasant. However, I do not desire to discourage you. You have at least accomplished one thing you claim—overcome the force of gravity—for the whole world is laughing at you. John Bull.

**To Alderman Banks, Town Council, Bournemouth.**

Good Sir,—At this moment I hold in my hands a tram ticket for your town, and printed on the back thereof is an advertisement of somebody's pale ale. For all I know to the contrary it is as good as it is pale. In any case it brings grist to the mill, and, as a business proposition, is surely as legitimate an advertisement as any other. It used to be an axiom of Mr. John Burns that a labour leader ought neither to dress like a waiter nor spell like a duke, and similarly I hold that a Bournemouth alderman ought not to think like a donkey or babble like an old washerwoman. Yet here you are, bobbing up at a meeting of the Town Council after one Councillor Lickfold (who complained that the "great body of ratepayers should have to carry in their hands advertisements of a particular brewer's beer"), protesting that the advertisement had sort of got there by accident; that you had instructed the traffic manager to get rid of the terrible tickets as quickly as possible; that the advertisement would not be repeated when the stock was exhausted; that you did not want to offend the susceptibilities of anybody, and that another kind of advertisement would be chosen. There is a rumour in the town, sir, that you now propose to sell the available space for use as a teetotal tract. What a queer lot of cranks you are down Bournemouth way, to be sure. John Bull.

**To Mr. W. H. G. Pallin, Master of the Workhouse, South Molton.**

Sir,—Despite that you have been warned more than once by the Guardians for beating of the boys in your care, you have now been called before them again on the complaint by the police for a gross repetition of the offence. In this instance you beat the boys with a cane so that long black lines were raised on the flesh, their offence being that of making a noise outside your office. As one of the Guardians put it, "if the boys cannot play about and shout in their playground without being thrashed for , life for them will not be worth living." I do not think the facts disclosed intentional cruelty, but it is obvious that you are a man of uncertain and irritable temper, with little command over yourself. The Guardians appear to have taken this view in giving you one last chance of improving your relations with these children of misfortune. I trust you will make the most of it. John Bull.

**Herbert Gladstone, Home Secretary, London.**

Understand you were 55 a few days ago. Quite an old Parliamentary hand, like father. Stick to it. Bull.

**Everitt, Stationmaster, Terminus C. and S.L. Railway, Clapham.**

Hearty congratulations on your appointment as Justice of Peace. Great honour to you as working man. Let mercy season justice. Bull.

**H. P. Grey, J.P., Wilmslow, Cheshire.**

I take note of your instruction to manager of your hostelry that nobody is to be served with more than two glasses at a time. Should have thought one glass at a time would have been enough. Bull.

# BREWING MISCHIEF.

JOHN BULL: "Now, what are you boys up to?"
THE BOYS: "We're making a bomb to blow up old Bung with."
JOHN BULL: "H'm! Mind you don't blow yourselves up, that's all."

# IN THE CITY.

## "NATIONAL FINANCE IN 1908 AND AFTER."

Among the many men, members of the last House of Commons, who failed to obtain seats at the last General Election, Mr. Thos. Gibson Bowles was conspicuous, for he had proved himself to be an independent, fearless, and a most able Member of Parliament. Of his many services to the country when in the House perhaps the most conspicuous was his unflinching opposition to the reckless expenditure of the last Government, and his unswerving advocacy of that policy of retrenchment which finds but few supporters in the present day. Now that he is out of Parliament, Mr. Bowles continues to uphold the doctrines that found favour with Peel, and Baring, and Gladstone, but are derided by the financial mannikins of the present day. We have before us a brochure by Mr. Bowles, which he entitles "National Finance in 1908 and After," and which we should like to see in every voter's home.

The value of this publication is that it tells the truth about the National Finances, and enables the citizen to understand without great mental effort the exact position. It may be said that this is explained to him every spring by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Unfortunately, that is not the case. The figures with which the Chancellor has to deal are, some of them, manipulated with the express object of hoodwinking the public, whilst others are passed over or concealed with a similar object. These are strong things to say, but their truth is demonstrable. Indeed, the present Prime Minister has admitted the charge to be true, and, to do him justice, has done something towards removing the reproach by alterations in the form of Accounts.

### HOODWINKING THE PUBLIC.

Mr. Bowles points out that during all recent years up to March 31st, 1907, certain vast sums of money levied by the State were paid directly over to the Local Taxation Account instead of being paid into the Exchequer. In 1906–7 they amounted to no less than £10,222,412, every farthing of which was ignored and excluded from all official accounts of National expenditure, but in 1907–8 that vast sum was restored to the Exchequer receipts and issues—restoration due to Mr. Asquith, then Chancellor of the Exchequer—and the falsification of the public accounts was consequently diminished by over ten millions. But though Mr. Asquith is to be congratulated upon this important reform, there remain other large sums still improperly excluded from the accounts, the main item being that of the Appropriations in Aid, that is the moneys had by the departments for such things as rents, sales of stores, and cognate receipts, which in 1907-8 amounted to £9,501,379. Their withholding from the Exchequer, and their omission from the accounts of the National expenditure whereof they are part, is as indefensible as was that of the Local Taxation moneys.

### OFFICIAL ADMISSIONS.

It is most significant that the compilers of the "Statistical Abstract of the U.K." avow in their latest volume that the authoritative statements therein of the "total expenditure chargeable against revenue" have for some years been false. The admission is made by altering in this year's issue of that official document the sum given under that head for every single year since and including 1893–4. The 1907 edition gave the total expenditure for that year as £91,302,846, and 1908 gives it as £98,466,798. The difference is the sum paid towards local taxation. Up to 1908 this was always treated as though it were no expenditure at all, and was therefore omitted; but in 1908, for the first time it was admitted to be expenditure, and was therefore included. This admission involved doctoring of the previous years' accounts. And just as the expenditure of the year has been for many years past, and still is in a lesser degree, mis-stated to Parliament, so are the accounts dealing with debt.

### LOSSES ON SAVINGS BANKS.

In addition to the Funded and Unfunded Debt, the Terminable Annuities Debt and the "Other Capital Liabilities" which the Treasury alone appears to recognise as debt, there are other liabilities amounting to another £192,414,267, which are airily dismissed as "contingent or indirect." They come under no less than fourteen different liabilities, including those in respect of Post Office Savings Banks, Trustees Savings Banks, and Friendly Societies and Guaranteed Loans. The Government have taken charge of the savings of the poor in the Post Office Savings Banks, in the Trustees Savings Banks, and in the Friendly Societies, and have so invested them that in each one of the three cases the value of the investments held is far less than the Government liabilities to the depositors and trustees. The total amount of these funds is enormous—£211,933,892—the greater part of which is withdrawable at call, or at a few days' notice. Yet the cash balance in hand is extremely small, and if all the securities held were realised at the price of the day, they would not produce by many millions enough to meet the liabilities. The deficiency for which the Consolidated Fund is liable is in effect an addition to the National Debt of a very momentous character. The total deficiency of assets in respect of Post Office Savings Bank, Trustee Savings Bank and Friendly Societies on December 31st, 1907, was £25,020,245. So far as their own resources go, these institutions were insolvent at the end of 1907 by the amount of over twenty-five million pounds, for every penny of which the Consolidated Fund is responsible.

It will, of course, be said that the Savings Banks depositors are in no danger, since the Consolidated Fund is liable to them, but as Mr. Bowles points out, they are in some danger, for most of the sums due to them are payable on demand, or at a few days' notice. There is but a small sum of cash in hand. There is nothing at all corresponding to the "gold reserve," which every prudent banker maintains. Mr. Bowles contends that the aggregate liabilities of the State amounted to, on March 31st, 1908, no less than £954,740,318, as compared with £729,591,048 on March 31st, 1895.

### LOCAL DEBT AND EXPENDITURE.

But State expenditure and debt are only half the story. Besides these, there is Local expenditure and debt, and these have increased most alarmingly since the Local Government Act of 1888. The total Local expenditure of the U.K. in 1887–8 was £66,804,286; in 1907–8 it was estimated at £163,000,000; the total Local Debt in 1887–8 was £223,261,945; in 1907–8 it was estimated at £670,000,000. It is sometimes said that Local expenditure differs from National expenditure in that it is at least in part reproductive or profitable, and because it represents in part an individual service to the individual ratepayer; but whether the cash taken from the ratepayer be called a tax and levied by the State, or a rate and levied by the locality, makes no difference. He has to add one to the other, and must bear both. The fact that some of the burden is applied to purposes which yield a profit makes no difference. It is as true of both. The State has made a profit out of the taxation applied in buying the Suez Canal shares (some £27,522,962 in thirty-two years), which is as much to the point as any profit that may be made out of rates spent on tramways and the rest. Mr. Bowles works out the total State and Local expenditure for 1907–8 at £306,000,000, and the total debt, including Funded and Unfunded Debt, Contingent Liabilities, and Local Liabilities, at the appalling total of £1,453,681,505.

### THE FUTURE.

So much for the past. Mr. Bowles gives the present Government credit, as is its due, not only for stopping the mad increase in expenditure incurred so lightly by its predecessor, but in doing something, not very much, but still something, in the direction of reducing the Debt. But when we turn to the future, the outlook is very disturbing. Mr. Bowles estimates that the new extra money to be found "can scarcely be less than twenty, it may approach thirty millions." But as he puts the deficit at £6,502,000, and the increase on Navy estimates for new construction at £6,000,000, figures that probably exceed by three or four millions what will prove to be the actual ones, his other estimates may also err on the side of liberality, although it is certain that the deficit to be met will not be very far away from twenty millions. How is it to be found? Here Mr. Bowles is less clear. He points out the objections to making the very rich bear the burden of it, and for the rest contents himself with saying, "it seems only too likely that the Budget proposals of next year will involve the increase of expenditure and debt, and consequent further injury to the National credit, and also a further extension of the notion that the cost of the common service should properly be provided for by taxing only the richest." That, in his opinion, would be to fail all round; to relapse into ways of waste, debt, and discredit; to sacrifice free trade to false taxation; and to lay the foundations of protection in the ruins of false finance.

## INDUSTRIAL INSURANCE.

With reference to the article upon Industrial Insurance that appeared in a recent issue of JOHN BULL, and upon the subject generally, a correspondent writes to us as follows:—

> A Mrs. Smith, of 25, Albion Road, Eastbourne, was persuaded some time since by an agent of the —— Society to insure her little boy at a premium of 1d. a week. Then, about six months ago one, of the inspectors of the Society called with the agent and succeeded in persuading her to take out an additional policy on the same child at a further premium of 1d. per week,; he then saw the little boy and was quite satisfied with its health. The little boy, however, some few weeks ago died, and on Mrs. Smith making application for the insurance money, on which she was entirely depending for the funeral expenses, they refused to pay her anything on the ground that when the child was first insured he had the disease which he eventually died of, but they offered to return her the money paid in, which she refused, saying that she had no idea that the child was suffering from any disease at all when first assured, and that the inspector who persuaded her further to insure the child was apparently perfectly satisfied with its health.

Thie is a case of undoubted hardship. Is there no remedy?

## "THE INVESTOR'S BLUE BOOK" (1909).

We have to acknowledge a copy of "The Investor's Blue Book" (1909), edited by Mr. George J. Holmes, and published at the offices of the *Investor's Chronicle*, Tower Chambers, London Wall, E.C. This is the seventh year of the publication of this handy and very accurate reference work. The present edition is considerably enlarged, and contains new features of importance. The distinctive feature of the "Blue Book" is the presentation of the official balance-sheets of companies for the past two years in a form which shows at a glance whether an enterprise is progressing or otherwise. The character of the assets is indicated, and there is a brief review of the company's past history, together with any facts which have a bearing upon its prospects, while the recent developments of mining companies are explained, life estimates given where possible, and an endeavour is made to form an investment value for shares on the facts known at date. The editor claims, and as it seems to us with justice, that the "Blue Book" is written without bias, its one object being to give the truth about the companies with which it deals.

## NORTH WALES IRON AND MANGANESE COMPANY.

With reference to our statement respecting the debt due to this company from the W. I. Company in liquidation—£962 13s. 6d.—the liquidator writes to us to say that a first dividend of 9s. in the £ was paid on December 30th. We congratulate all concerned upon the estate being more valuable than we were led to suppose it to be.

## SAMUEL ALLSOPP AND SONS.

The general meeting of this company was presided over by Mr. J. F. Remnant, M.P. In moving the adoption of the report—which was carried unanimously—the chairman expressed his pleasure that, despite the peculiar difficulties under which breweries had laboured during the past year, Allsopps' had made a step forward on the road to prosperity. Though they were not yet out of the wood, he thought he could say that they had got through the worst part of the thicket. Two main objects had animated them during this year: they wanted to get down to bedrock and to find out the revenue-earning power of the company. They had made great economies, and had been able to reduce the agency and other expenses by over £30,000. (Cheers.) With sufficient working capital, they could obtain 5 per cent. on their purchasing, and they had reason to believe that any attempt to get it would be viewed in a very friendly way. If free from harassing legislation at that time next year, the shareholders would see a very material advance.

## FINANCIAL ENQUIRIES.

LAWRENCE AND COMPANY.—J. P. (Slough).—We agree with what you say as to these people. We have already exposed their doings in some detail.

J. C. (West Ealing).—You were quite right in not paying the two guineas, for which it is not at all likely that you would ever have had any return.

SAFE INVESTMENT.—INVESTOR (Earl's Court).—We cannot advise you to put the money into the concern you name.

THE REES ROTURBO COMPANY, LIMITED.—F. T. T. (Newport Pagnell).—We have no information respecting this company.

REVERSIONARY INTEREST.—W. G. C.—You have omitted to send us your name and address. If you send them, we will answer your questions.

PURCHASE OF BOND.—H. S. (Maidenhead).—We regret that we can be of no service to you in disposing of your bond.

NATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY.—CHARTERED (Wolverhampton).—Yes, we consider these shares as very well worth their present quotation. We thank you for your good wishes.

C. ALBERT AND COMPANY.—B. G. (Wrexham).—The circular you send us is very misleading. You ask if it is true that, by depositing £15 with these people, you "for certain get £30." Why not think it out for yourself? Why should these people offer you—a stranger—£15 "and possibly more"? Don't you think they would prefer to keep the £15 in their own pockets?

EASTERN AND AFRICAN COLD STORAGE SUPPLY COMPANY.—KOPJE (Eastbourne).—(1) Very little. (2) It is generally well to take a substantial profit, but in this case we should be inclined to hold a little longer.

NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION OF SHOP ASSISTANTS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND CLERKS.—W. R. (Thornton Heath).—The promised payments seem very generous, having regard to the scale of contributions, but we have no information as to the financial position of the society. Its objects, as indicated on the card you send us, are excellent.

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ACCOUNTANTS.—J. B. (Brighton).—We have no information respecting this organisation. Perhaps the society will send us some particulars. We thank you for your good wishes.

CITY AND COUNTY HOUSE PURCHASE COMPANY.—R. B.—(Shepherd's Bush).—If the facts are as you state them, you are, of course, entitled to a receipt, and this notwithstanding any possible misconduct on the part of the official to whom you refer.

STATUS OF BANK.—M. J. R. (Martock).—(1) We think the bank safe, but we should prefer the Birkbeck. (2) The outside brokers you name are having a rough time just now, which explains the delay of which you complain. (3) We are much obliged to you for the kindly expressions of your letter towards JOHN BULL and its Editor.

SUNDRY SHARES.—S. M. T. B. (Southampton).—The outside brokers you name are amongst the best of their kind, and the "bank" is respectable. The most promising shares are those marked "G."

FARROW'S BANK.—G. T. H. (Manchester).—This bank is not run on the ordinary banking lines, but we think it safe, and useful for the purpose for which it was founded.

BELL'S TRANSVAAL MINE, LIMITED.—C. S. (Birmingham).—None.

THE UNITED KINGDOM SAVINGS INVESTMENT CORPORATION.—E. B. D. (Neath).—We are inclined to think so.

MODEL OF INVENTION.—A. E. F. (West Kilburn).—Clearly the man is not entitled to make the charge, but, if he will not give up your papers, the only way is to put the matter in the hands of a solicitor.

NATIONAL DEPOSIT FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—H. J. (Wealdstone).—Yes, we think so. BLOOMFIELD (Belfast).—Ditto.

DEBENTURE HOLDER'S RIGHTS.—C. E. H. (Sheffield).—It should be obvious to you that we could not possibly advise you upon the complicated series of transactions you indicate in your lengthy communication to us. It is essentially a matter for your solicitor: and, of course, if the other side does not take your view of the position, there is nothing for it but to appeal to the Courts, if you are determined to do your utmost to enforce your claims.

NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE.—A. L. (Wainfleet).—Have nothing to do with them.

CHARTERED SECRETARY.—G. B. (Bath).—We are much obliged to you for your letter. The Secretary of the Institute of Secretaries has been good enough to write us on the subject.

THE BRITISH KEY AND PROPERTY REGISTRY, LIMITED.—H. W. L. (West Malling).—We have heard nothing to the contrary.

INTERNATIONAL SECURITIES CORPORATION, LIMITED.—B. J. (Wold).—Yours is a very hard case. We regret we cannot help you. The liquidator is the person to give you the information you want, and, if he cannot give it to you as yet, we fear you must wait.

THE SKAGIT QUEEN CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY.—INVESTMENT (Leeds).—We know nothing about this company, which, as you say, is "just about to be floated." But, speaking generally, we think you would be ill-advised in putting your money into any American silver mining company.

CARTER'S DEEP LEADS.—BULLITE (Bournemouth).—You should communicate with the secretary of the company at 27, Essex Street, Strand.

## INSURANCE ENQUIRIES.

LOAN UPON POLICY.—T. H. D. (Huddersfield).—We regret we can be of no assistance to you in the matter. No doubt you can arrange it in Huddersfield if you make inquiries amongst those who do this kind of business.

ENDOWMENT POLICY.—PREMIUM (Hornsey).—You do not give us your age. The Legal and General would give you the best return. It is one of the strongest and most enterprising offices in the country, and is very attractive to new entrants. Assuming your age to be 30, and the policy to mature at the age of 55, the value of the policy at maturity, assuming the annual premium to be £10, would, plus bonuses at the same rate as declared at last valuation, be £392. E. T. (Newport).—Ditto.

THE ALBION ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION.—J. N. (Queen's Square).—We have had many similar complaints, and we have repeatedly warned our readers to have nothing to do with this concern.

THE GENERAL ACCIDENT, FIRE AND LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—T. W. (Glen Conway).—Yes, quite.

TWO INSURANCES.—G. O. (Barry).—For sickness and accident, you could hardly do better than go to the Century. It is a comparatively young, but is a very progressive and prosperous company. For accident only, the Fine Art and General Insurance Company, Limited, may be recommended.

BRITISH LIFE OFFICE.—H. E. L. (Devonport).—If the facts are as you state them, you have been unfairly treated, but as to that, in the absence of the necessary evidence, we are unable to express an opinion.

LONDON, EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW ASSURANCE COMPANY.—A. P. (Brentford).—The charges you make against a representative of the company are very serious, and it is impossible for us to express an opinion upon the facts, having no means of verifying them. You should consult a solicitor.

SICKNESS AND ACCIDENT ASSURANCE.—A. P. (Rhymney).—See answer to "G. O. (Barry)."

BEST INSURANCE COMPANY.—J. W. (Londonderry).—We cannot answer your question unless you tell us what kind of insurance you want.

LAW UNION AND CROWN INSURANCE COMPANY.—H. W. N. (Lewisham).—(1) It is an office of high standing, and its endowment assurance compares well with those of other offices. (2) You would, we think, be safe in dealing with the land society you name.

LIFE ASSURANCE TRICKERY.—A. B. H. (Hammersmith).—The matter is rather complicated. We will look into the authorities, and answer your letter next week.

LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY.—E. H. T. (Weybridge).—We will look into the matter, and answer you in our next issue.

EXCELSIOR SICKNESS AND ACCIDENT ASSURANCE COMPANY.—E. W. (Aberdeen).—The registration to which you refer does not in any way modify our opinion as already expressed.

PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—T. B. S. M. (Finsbury Park).—What is it you want us to tell you about it? If you will explain, we will do what we can to enlighten you. J. B. M. (Bristol).—We think you are a little hasty. You charge agents of this company with forging a document to your loss, you communicate with the company, and they say it will be necessary for them to communicate with their local agents before they can give a final answer to your request to see the original document. Apparently you first wrote to the head office on the 9th December last, and your letter to us is dated January 1st. The interval has not been excessive for the inquiries that may have been necessary, and, if the facts are as you state them, or anywhere near your statement, we do not doubt that you will hear from the head office of the company shortly. Let us know what steps they take in the matter.

# AMONG THE LAWYERS.

## THE POLICE AND THE PUBLICAN.

We had something to say about one of Mr. Francis' decisions at the Westminster Police Court the other day, and another has now come under our notice which deserves comment. Mr. Geo. Gale is a publican who has carried on his business at the "Royal Oak," Elizabeth Street, Pimlico, for ten years without a single complaint being made against him by the police or any other public authority. For twelve years before going to the "Royal Oak" Mr. Gale was the licensee of the "Burnham Hotel," Burnham-on-Crouch, and there, too, his conduct was exemplary. On January 1st this respectable and responsible publican was charged before Mr. Francis for selling to a drunken person, and, in the alternative, for permitting drunkenness. The prosecution admitted that the "Royal Oak" was an excellently managed house. They admitted that the case was "not of an aggravated character." They said they would be satisfied if one summons was dealt with. In the end Mr. Francis decided not to proceed to conviction, but he sentenced Mr. Gale to pay the costs—five guineas. How the costs could reach five guineas it is not very easy to see. It is still more difficult to understand why Mr. Gale should be called upon to pay them.

What are the facts? On the night in question two men went into the "Royal Oak." They talked and smoked quietly and naturally. Mr. Gale saw them there, and took no particular notice until they got into violent altercation. Up to that moment there was nothing whatever to lead Mr. Gale to think they were drunk. He then went immediately to the police station close by and asked for a constable to eject the men. Surely a very proper course. According to Inspector Parry, who gave evidence, Mr. Gale was asked to wait at the station whilst constables went to his house to investigate. Why he was asked to wait there the inspector did not explain. Mr. Francis apparently thought it a strange procedure, for he remarked to the inspector: "You kept the licensee at the station while you went to his house to get evidence against him?" That is precisely what happened. When the constables got to the house they examined the barmaid, who made no attempt to conceal anything. The barmaid said—and it was upon the barmaid's evidence, and upon her evidence alone, that the police relied—that she noticed that one of the two men was drunk, and that she served him with soda water. The other, as she says, was sober, and she served him with what he asked for. To serve a drunken man with soda water in a public-house does not seem to the layman an offence, and even a lawyer can only make it out to be a very little one; but it was enough for the police, who forthwith took out the summons, with the result we have given above.

Can anything much more monstrous be imagined? Here is a man who has carried on a publican's business, managing large and important houses, for twenty-two years. Throughout that long period there has not been a whisper against him. One evening two men come into his bar. There is nothing to differentiate them from any other man in the bar. You cannot always, unless you are preternaturally cute, immediately detect a drunken man. Mr. Gale had not even noticed them before they were served. The barmaid thought one of them was drunk, but at that time he was not noisily drunk, and he asked for a glass of soda water. We suppose she thought it was about the best thing he could drink, and the most likely to make him sober. Not being as well versed in the niceties of the law as perhaps she ought to have been, the girl did not know that in giving him this soda water she was committing a technical offence. The two men go to a table, and soon afterwards they begin to quarrel. Then Mr. Gale's attention was directed to them, and he did the proper thing by going to the police station to invoke aid to eject them. Yet, for doing so, this respectable publican is summoned to a police court, is compelled to engage a professional man to defend him, and is fined five guineas. There is not much encouragement here for respectable men to try to keep their houses in good repute.

## THE RECOVERY OF DEBT.

The new rules of the Mayor's Court should make the recovery of debt of a certain class a good deal more expeditious, the main object of the new rules are an adaptation of Order 14 to enable plaintiffs to obtain speedy judgment where a defence is not disclosed. The chief of these rules provides that in any action for a debt or a liquidated money demand exceeding £10 the plaintiff may on filing an affadavit to the effect that he believes that there is no defence to his claim, obtain a default plaint which will, unless the defendant states in eight days the grounds of his defence, entitle him to sign judgment for his claim and costs. Further County Court rules which came into operation on January 1st have been issued, but the changes they introduce, though useful, are not very striking. If the County Courts are not as a result of the labours of the committee now inquiring into their constitution and practice made constituent branches of the High Court, the procedure of Order 14 ought to be so applied as to render them more useful to litigants. This alteration is among the proposals which the County Courts Committee of the Law Society has put forward.

## DECLINE IN LITIGATION.

Although the Judicial Statistics for 1907 show that in the Chancery Division the number of actions was 40 above that of 1906, while in the King's Bench Division the actions set down for trial numbered 158 more than the preceding year, a survey of 10 years makes it very clear that the volume of litigation in the High Court is declining. The number of actions set down for trial in the Chancery Courts has declined from 1,777 to 657, and the number entered for trial in the King's Bench from 2,845 to 2,133. The reduction in the latter Courts is mainly to be accounted for by the recent extension of the jurisdiction of the County Courts. Since the County Courts Act of 1903 came into operation the plaints for sums above £50 have more than doubled.

## LEGAL ANSWERS.

CANADIAN ESTATE.—"IRIS."—There is no way in which the information can be obtained in this country, but if you apply to the Agent-General for Canada, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., he would probably tell you the proper officer to whom to write for a copy of the will as proved. If you can afford to employ a solicitor, he could get the information through a Canadian solicitor

AGREEMENT.—W. E. K. (Wolverhampton).—It seems to us that you have bound yourself to buy the fixtures at the agreed sum, and we do not see how you can now escape from the bargain

TENANCY.—H. G. C. (Clapham).—You can leave at any time on giving notice one quarter in advance of the date on which you wish to leave.

AGREEMENT.—H. K. B. (Peckham).—The agreement must be stamped. As you do not put a limit of time, we doubt if the contract is enforceable. He cannot be bound for ever by the undertaking.

DEED OF GIFT.—"BORDERER" (Norham-on-Tweed).—A deed of gift may comprise all the properties in one deed, and must be stamped as a conveyance of all the properties.

NOTICE OF DISMISSAL.—R. L. H. (Cheshire).—A mistress can give her servant notice at any time, and need not wait till the pay-day arrives. As regards the furniture, your best course is to make out an agreement under which you let the furniture to the son for a nominal rent, and set out a schedule of it in the agreement. He will then become your tenant of the furniture. Any form of words will suffice to make the agreement, if they are clearly expressed Get the agreement stamped

SMALL HOLDINGS AND OLD AGE PENSIONS.—B. C. (Monkshampton).—The man could apply to the County Council for a small holding, but he would not be entitled to demand the particular one he has his eye on. Any person who has an income of not more than the statutory limit from a Friendly Society or other source is eligible for a pension.

LAND PURCHASE.—SIC (Manor Park).—The company, so far as we know, conducts its business properly, but we cannot take the responsibility of advising you to purchase. We know no reason why you should not do so.

RIGHT TO PROPERTY.—R. W. P. S. (South Shields).—As the lists are out of print, all you can do is to advertise for someone to lend you one, or apply to one of the agencies who make it their business to keep lists of these names. We know nothing of the Seven Sisters estate. As regards the Dublin property, you should write to the Probate Office, Dublin. The children of persons who are not married are illegitimate, and cannot take any property of their parents except by will, in which they should be specially described so as to remove any doubt as to who they are. It is not sufficient to describe them as "children."

RECEIPT STAMP.—J. D. (Hitchin).—The answer which you send us from the Council's "Gazette," to the effect that a receipt for Poor Rates signed by the collector for an amount above £2 is exempt from stamp duty, is incorrect. There is no such exemption, and every collector of rates is bound to give properly stamped receipts for all rate payments of £2 and over.

S. W. (Westbury-on-Trym).—No person is exempt from the obligation to stamp a receipt for wages if the amount is £2 or more. The staff of the institution referred to must stamp their receipts.

SEPARATION.—TRAMWAY (Norwood).—The Separation Order does not make any alteration in regard to the relative rights of the husband and wife as to property. If she left no will he would inherit, but he would not be entitled to go to her if she was ill unless she asked him to do so.

AGREEMENT.—ONWARENTED (Merthyr).—They can compel you to pay, according to the terms of your agreement, and your best course is to make them an offer which will tide you over the period of unemployment. Try and avoid legal proceedings.

MARRIAGE.—McT. (Glasgow).—There is no reason why Sandy should not marry Bella.

RIGHT TO RECOVER.—P. J. H. (Hertford).—As you parted with the receipt, we do not see how you can now recover the money.

UNCLAIMED GOODS.—PYGMALION (Cardiff).—If the notice was communicated to the customers, you are entitled to dispose of the goods, as you have a lien on them with a power of sale.

MARRIAGE IN ASSUMED NAME.—STELOR (London).—It is perfectly legal for the young lady to marry in the name which she has adopted and by which she has been known since her mother's marriage.

ENGAGEMENT.—ENGAGEMENT (Stroud Green).—The employee would be a weekly servant and not a yearly one.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.—H. P. A. (Whitecross Street).—A foreigner who came to England in 1854 cannot, by becoming naturalised now, comply with the conditions for an Old Age Pension, as there must be twenty years' residence after naturalisation. If naturalised now, he would be eligible 20 years hence.

SEPARATION.—W. S. B. (London).—A Separation Order can be granted by a magistrate, but it does not have the effect of a divorce. If the husband's conduct is such as to warrant a divorce, this could be sued for, and the husband would have to pay the costs.

SECOND MORTGAGE.—NEMO (Hartlepool).—A promissory note would be the simplest way, but a second mortgage—which a solicitor should prepare—would be more effectual, and probably satisfactory, to both parties.

SETTLEMENT.—R. W. (Hammersmith).—Unless you are prepared to bring an action and claim larger damages, you appear to have no alternative but to accept the sum offered. It seems to us that you have a good cause of action, and, if you get the solicitors to act for you, they ought to recover more than the £10 offered.

OFFICER SHAREHOLDERS.—ENGINEER (Derby).—There is nothing to prevent shareholders in a company being paid officers.

LOSS OF BICYCLE.—SIBBONS (Bow).—The person who stored your bicycle for an agreed charge is liable to make good its loss. He is what in law is known as a bailee for hire, and you can bring an action against him for the value of the machine.

ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE.—ALPHA (Wales).—It is a very serious thing to bring an action against a solicitor and a valuer for negligence and we hesitate to advise such a course. Your best plan is to lay the whole of the facts before an independent solicitor, and act on his advice. As far as we can judge, there is nothing to show that your solicitors acted improperly, as it is not for them to judge the value of property. The case seems to be stronger against the valuer.

CLAIM UPON DEPOSIT.—DEPOSIT (Peterborough).—By the conditions of the agreement, you have forfeited the deposit, and have no right to claim its return.

OLD AGE PENSION.—T. V. (Fulham).—If your mother has received 15s. a week from her sons, that would be taken as the basis of her income for the future, and she would be disqualified from receiving an Old Age Pension.

LIABILITY FOR WORK.—REGULAR READER (Forest Gate).—Unless you gave the man orders to cut the grass in the wrong field, you are not liable. The owner must settle it with the man himself.

# EXERCISES THAT CURE ILLNESS.

## By EUGEN SANDOW.

WHEN anyone is feeling ill, or out of sorts, it is a common practice to resort to some form of exercise to "work it off." No one ever willingly gives in to an ailment, and it is quite right to endeavour to shake it off by the most natural means available, and nothing is better than SUITABLE exercise for this purpose.

Men and women, however, are not always very happy in the selection of their exercises and as I am to a large extent responsible for the revival of the practice of exercise as a curative agent in disease, I feel that it is only right that I should endeavour to correct certain misconceptions which have arisen in this matter.

It is a most unfortunate fact that many forms of exercise are taken too violently to be of any use from a health standpoint. Many people want to obtain too quick results, and often injure themselves seriously in the attempt.

### I DO NOT CONDEMN GAMES FOR THE HEALTHY.

In what I am saying I trust no one will mistake me so far as to think that I condemn games or athletics for the physically sound. What I am now discussing refers only to those who are ailing or in bad physical condition, and take to games as a means of improving the health.

When I see, and hear, of people making unnatural endeavours to get strong by means of excessive forms of exercise, I feel sorry for them, and it is to combat this error that I am writing on the matter of exercise as a bane and as a boon to humanity—especially to ailing and delicate humanity.

The dyspeptic, the unusually stout, the liverish, the gouty, the anæmic, the person with a tendency to consumption, the poor blooded, the "delicate," and, in fact, the thousands of others predisposed to, or already in the throes of, some physical disorder, all need exercise for the relief of their conditions; but how many of them benefit from the self-devised penance they put themselves to? Ninety-nine per cent. give up the self-created prescription, acknowledge themselves defeated, and fly to drugs, or give up altogether in despair of ever "getting better."

The fault lies in the form of exercise undertaken.

Then, again, it is painful to observe that many people who are more or less chronic invalids never think of curing themselves by exercise at all, and rely entirely on the effects of self-drugging, which they indulge in to a most alarming extent, with the result that they remain chronic invalids to the end of the chapter.

Both hunting and walking are excellent recreations for the physically sound, but each of them is too strenuous for many people in a run-down condition who at present take up these forms of exercises with the idea of regaining health.

### THAT SCIENTIFIC EXERCISE DOES CURE IS ABSOLUTELY PROVED.

I have proved be yond a shadow of doubt in daily practice to hundreds of ill people who have called upon or written to me about their troubles that scientifically directed exercises cure almost all the ills that "flesh is heir to." And I have noticed with equal certainty that badly directed exercises have a baneful, rather than a beneficial, influence upon ailing persons. Therefore, it is quite clear that all delicate persons should direct their energies to obtaining reliable information on the cure of disease by scientific exercises. Some points in this connection I am able to explain in this article, but the subject is so important that it should be looked into more fully, and, to this end, I cordially invite readers of JOHN BULL to call upon me, personally, or write to me for the necessary literature, which I have prepared for the express purpose of enlightening them, and which I will forward free of cost to all who write to me for it.

The lady who endeavours to soothe overstrung nerves by violent exercise of any sort usually accentuates the trouble and eventually breaks down entirely.

I have made this question my life's study, and, whether people think I am exceeding the limits of modesty or not, I am determined that there shall be no limit placed upon the opportunities of ailing persons to learn of the health-restoring properties of my system of Curative Physical Culture.

I care not for the cynicisms which are usually directed at those who extol their own systems or ideas. This matter of health is of vital importance to hundreds who to-day read these lines, and the satisfaction of having disseminated the knowledge which will restore health to those who have lost it in any degree is a reward in itself well worth the having.

Look at the thousands of men and women who go through life as if it were a penance rather than a delight; who suffer from this or that ailment, incurable by methods of self-drugging and irregular forms of exercise, but quite amenable to scientific physical prescriptions.

The woman who goes in for golf, or other games or sport, with a view to relief for some ailment generally overdoes it, and her "drives" are often directed to the displacement of some organ, rather than to the removal of her indisposition. The man who is getting stout and dyspeptic and takes to boating as a cure for a run-down condition often ends up by seriously straining his heart.

The delicate but would-be-well tennis player who seeks to gain health by racing from one corner of the court to the other like a flash of lightning, in order that he may be smart in taking a difficult "return," often succeeds in nothing but further incapacitating himself.

Such a sufferer needs to take a prescribed course of scientific exercises which

strains unduly no organ or muscle, but steadily drives out the offending trouble by degrees, and without fail.

Then, when the system has been strengthened by this careful course, he or she can take part, if desired, in any competitive game or sport.

### Women Quickly Feel the Benefit of the Right Exercise.

For instance, a woman who is suffering from headache, pains in the back and legs, giddiness, and indigestion, finds that the first few days of the scientific exercises send her backache and giddiness away, then her head becomes free from pain, then her legs become comfortable, until, finally, she finds she can eat whatsoever she will without discomfort, and continues permanently cured.

The man who suffers from chronic disorganisation of some organ such as the liver, stomach, or lungs, finds daily improvement also from this treatment, and obtains ultimate cure, whereas some irregular form of exercise might not only disappoint him in its results, but may be positively harmful to his debilitated tissues.

Medical men know the value of exercise as a curative agent, and constantly recommend patients to take it. But they recognise that its curative effect depends upon the mode of its administration, and frequently send their patients to me in order that the exercises may be scientifically prescribed and supervised.

To those who are in need of a cure for any unsatisfactory condition of health, and who wish to know one absolute proof why it is that scientifically directed exercises are so curative of disease, while other forms—irregular forms—of exercise are often harmful I am happy to respond. And the explanation reveals a most interesting modern medical discovery, which was not known a few years ago, except in a theoretical and general sense.

Without entering into technicalities, I may state that it is now generally recognised that healthy blood has a peculiar property of overcoming the attacks of disease, and that recovery from illness only takes place when this quality has been restored. Therefore it is quite clear that illness only invades the system when it has overcome this resisting quality of the blood, and departs from the body when this quality is restored.

The man who is run down and endeavours to recruit his health by excessive exertion in any form of sport or athletics is running grave risks.

### The Blood is Purified and the Heart Strengthened.

Now, to restore the blood to this desirable condition of perfect immunity the organs of the body, and the system generally, must be brought back to completely harmonious action, and every section of the body must be made to do its own share of work properly—and no more. For instance, the heart must not be overtaxed at the expense of the nervous system, nor must the brain withdraw the need of the digestive system, and so forth.

This withdrawal of force from one system to another is exactly what occurs in disease, and when the body is irregularly and unscientifically exercised, and the healthy resistance of the blood becomes thereby abolished.

When illness overtakes the human body the only treatment which will safely and surely restore the equipoise and bring back to the blood all its healthy qualities is a carefully prescribed scientific course of movements taken over a period to suit the gravity or the particular nature of the case.

My system of Curative Physical Culture is not the science of a day's growth. It is founded upon the toils and experiences of many years, and I am able to prescribe sets of exercises which will restore the physical equipoise in the majority of disorders of the human system.

I do not wish to imply that my system of physical treatment is a "cure-all," for there is no such thing. But I have found that all those disorders which are vicariously termed functional, such as all forms of dyspepsia, indigestion, and constipation, asthma, and other pulmonary trouble, weak hearts, liver disorders and piles, general disorders such as rheumatism, gout, anæmia, obesity, nervous disturbances and insomnia; also many physical deformities, and cases where development is lacking or weak, are quite curable by scientific exercise. But all cases require careful consideration and direction of the curative movements.

For instance, after examining and considering the particulars which I have received from Mr. A., and finding him to be a sufferer from dyspepsia, I do not prescribe for him a set of exercises which I have just ordered for Mr. B., who is suffering from gout and arterial degeneration. Nor does Miss C., at my hands, receive the same prescription in exercises for weak lungs and deficient chest expansion as Mrs. D. would be ordered for some disorder peculiar to her sex, age, and condition.

### Stout People Specially need Suitable Exercise; any other is Dangerous.

Stout people often have weakly acting hearts, and, indeed, poorly acting organs generally. They are prone to bronchitis, liver trouble, constipation, palpitation of the heart, and other disorders.

To such people scientific exercise is absolutely the one and only cure, but unscientifically conducted exercises would be most harmful.

Then, such troubles as gout, rheumatism, asthma, indigestion, dyspepsia, kidney disorders, and so forth, have their origin in functional disturbance, and only require the functions to be restored to obtain relief from these miseries. But as I find it is becoming a common thing for people by wrong forms of exercise to make their already distressing ailments worse, it is high time they were put in the way of exercises exactly suited to the exigencies of their cases, and curative in their nature.

### I Invite Correspondence and Calls from all who are Physically Unfit.

If among the readers, both men and women, of John Bull there are any who require my advice and help with a view to restoring their bodies to a condition of perfect health, or who are suffering from any disease or functional disorder which they think may be amenable to my system of Curative Physical Culture, I invite them to call upon me, or if this is not convenient, to write to me on the subject. I shall be most happy to send them, free of all charge, my book on the subject of "Health from Physical Culture," and to frankly answer any special questions respecting themselves which they may care to put to me in confidence, in order to ascertain whether their cases are cases for a cure by exercise.

During the past few years in particular, thousands of men and women in all parts not only of this country but of the world, have responded to invitations of this nature which I have made on previous occasions, and have later on acknowledged the benefits which they have received as a result of following my advice either entirely in their own homes or in my London Institute. It costs nothing to write me mentioning John Bull and giving particulars of a sufferer's complaints, and have my advice upon them, as well as a copy of the illustrated book, which tells all about my work, and as in any case a course of treatment in your own home or at my Institute costs but little in either time or money, I can heartily advise every ailing man and woman to communicate with me, Eugen Sandow, 32A, St. James' Street, London, S.W.

## HUMAN DOCUMENT.—XXXI.

SIR,—I should like to bring to your notice a very deserving case for a pension. I am sub-postmaster of this district, and to-day an old lady has applied to me for an application form for a pension, and on looking into the matter I found she was disqualified owing to being in receipt of poor relief.

The woman in question is 85 years of age, and I have known her personally for about 30 years. She is very respectable, and has practised as midwife for 46 years, during which time she has aided in bringing no less than 23,000 little innocents into this wicked world of ours, at the rate of about 10 per week, to grow up and help to defend our noble King and flag. For this fact alone I think she deserves a special pension, as I think there are few women with such a record for so many of us being in existence at the present. She only receives 2s. 6d. per week from the guardians, which is not enough to keep body and soul together, and to me it seems a great shame that a woman so deserving should be debarred from receiving some little recognition of her past services. I have been very pleased with the manner in which you have taken up different cases, and thought probably you would do something to help this good old soul by publishing my letter, and see if by that means a few subscriptions could be got for her to relieve her distress at this great age. Surely bringing to town 23,000 British subjects is a valuable asset to the nation.

Anyone wishing to help could either send to me, at Post Office, Gold's Hill, West Bromwich, or direct to Mrs. Harper, 9, Canal Side, Pikehelve Street, Gold's Hill, West Bromwich.

W. A. BROWN.

### ESTHER SAMLER AND EARL RUSSELL.

With reference to the Human Document No. XXX., published in our issue of December 26th, in which Esther Samler complained that Earl Russell had acted with great harshness towards her husband, arrested and charged at Bow Street by Lord Russell's butler for stealing £3 from his lordship's house, Lord Russell writes to say that the facts are not as stated by Esther Samler. Samler, writes the Earl, was arrested by the police on a description furnished by the butler. Lord Russell did not appear against Samler next morning, and the only evidence given by Lord Russell was to the effect that £3 had been stolen. Samler brought an action in the County Court, claiming damages for malicious prosecution and false imprisonment. After a long hearing, the jury found against Samler on the question of malicious prosecution, and assessed the damages at £30 for false imprisonment, if there had been false imprisonment. The County Court judge held, however, that there had been no false imprisonment, and the claim was dismissed. Lord Russell did not ask for costs against Samler, and, in view of his forbearance, was much surprised to find that the matter was carried to appeal, when Samler was again unsuccessful. Lord Russell has, from first to last, been put to an expense of £50 in respect of a claim which is now held to be unfounded.

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## WHEN THE PEERS CLIMBED DOWN.

BY RADCLIFFE MARTIN.

It was in 1909 that the Peers really began to show their teeth to the great Liberal Government. The Fifth (or was it the Sixth?) Education Bill, the joint product of the mighty brains of Mr. Runciman, Dr. Clifford, and Lord Halifax, was defeated at Lansdowne House by 282 votes to 11. In the House of Lords itself, the Government had a better division, for the Marquises of Londonderry and Townsend accidentally voted in the wrong lobby, and consequently raised the Government vote to 13.

Then the great Asquithian Government arose in its might and passed a resolution stating that in the opinion of the Commons of England Lansdowne House was not the Fourth Estate of the Realm. And the *Daily News* said that day was the greatest day in English history since Magna Charta was signed on the scaffold at Whitehall. This may have been so, but the wicked Peers took no notice whatever.

Then the Government said grimly, "We'll make it hot for them on the Budget," and Mr. Lloyd George devised a tax on land values calculated to make anyone who owned more than three acres sit up. But the House of Lansdowne threw out the Budget by 320 votes to 1—the Bishop of Hereford telling for the minority—himself. The next day the young men of the *Daily News* let themselves go, and many readers of that respectable journal got up from their breakfast-tables and looked out of their windows to see if the revolution had already begun. It hadn't.

So the Government brought in an innocuous Budget, and said: "We shall bide our time; when the right moment comes we shall deal with these haughty aristocrats." And in due time they stopped supplies—that is, they cut off the wages of the House of Lords' housemaids. But as the Peers now sat almost perpetually at Lansdowne House they suffered little inconvenience, and when the Suffragettes took up the housemaids' cause and announced their intention of ringing all the bells of all the Ministers till justice was done them, the Government had perforce to climb down.

Now the great Premier's back was against a wall, so he told the Cabinet: "We must ask the King to create three hundred Peers. If they all turn Tory at once, anyhow, at a thousand pounds apiece it'll mean three hundred thousand for our party funds." But the King said politely that while he would not object to the creation of a dozen or so Peers, he thought that three hundred was rather a large order, and that a General Election would be a necessary preliminary. And at the very thought of General Election, the Government shuddered.

Then it was that the youth of the Cabinet had an idea. "Well," said Winston, "if the King does not object to the creation of a dozen Peers——"

"There aren't a dozen Liberals with £25,000 to put down for a peerage," interrupted the Premier.

However, the youth persisted in stating his plan, and the Cabinet roared with laughter. Mr. Birrell, wiping his spectacles, declared that he resigned the post of jester to the party, and that his mantle had fallen on the President of the Board of Trade.

And at the next session of the Peers at Lansdowne House the Marquis of Lansdowne, pale as ashes, read the Government's ultimatum—that unless all the Government's legislation was instantly passed by the Peers without amendment the following additions would be made to the peerage:—Barons: Messrs. G. K. Chesterton, Hall Caine, Seymour Hicks, Joynson Hicks, Stewart Gray, Hirst Hollowell, R. J. Campbell, Frank Richardson, Harry Quelch, and Bernard Shaw. Peeresses in their own right: Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Marie Corelli.

There was a shriek of horror. Before the Peers had left Lansdowne House they had passed an Education Bill (No. 9 or thereabouts), a Home Rule Bill, English and Scotch Disestablishment Bills, an English Land Bill, and a Bill for a Universal Eight Hours Day.

Then the clever President of the Board of Trade chuckled and said, "I knew if we let the advertising bores of England loose on them our titled friends would give way"

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# THE HEATHEN CHINAMAN IN ENGLAND.

## SOME FACTS ABOUT HIS HABITS.

By CLAUDE BLAKE.

The local authorities of Cardiff are waking up to the fact, long since discovered by Liverpool through bitter experience, that Chinamen and certain other aliens are undesirable as residents or visitors. I will deal in this article especially with the Chinese, for I have gained a peculiar and intimate knowledge of them by close study of their colonies in London, Liverpool, New York City, San Francisco, Manila, and Panama.

Towards the end of 1906, the Liverpool City Council, by sixty votes to one, appointed a Special Commission to inquire into a series of grave charges which I had made through the Press against the "Chinatown" of that city. After a searching investigation extending over three months, and involving the calling of many witnesses and the frequent visitation of Chinese dens *in disguise* at all hours of the day and night, the Commission reported that the charges were proved, and recommended that the Government should be asked to enforce the Alien Immigration Law more stringently, so as to check the growth of Chinese colonies in English cities, and also to strengthen the Criminal Law Amendment Act. We had clear evidence before the Commission that many English girls under the age of fifteen—one as young as twelve—had been lured from their homes in the suburbs of Liverpool through the medium of the Chinese laundries scattered all over the city, and taken to the dens of "Chinatown," where they were induced to smoke opium and lead a life of unspeakable degradation, which ended, in at least one proved case, in suicide. We had proof, too, that those indescribable vices which were officially attributed to the Chinese coolies on the Rand flourished unchecked in several Chinese houses in Liverpool. Public feeling ran high against the Celestials. Some of the more notorious places were attacked and stoned by mobs, and even a police-sergeant took the law in his own hands by breaking into a Chinese laundry and thoroughly thrashing half-a-dozen Chinamen in order to rescue his fifteen-year-old daughter from shame. No wonder one of the Liverpool Councillors asked his colleagues, "Are you going to wait until you see in your city what I saw in San Francisco when I was a boy—Chinamen hanged to the street lamp-posts and riddled with bullets by the infuriated mob?"

The scared Chinese sent away many of the white girls from Liverpool to Cardiff and London when the investigation was proceeding. No doubt some of them remain there. In Liverpool there is not a single Chinese woman, but you cannot walk along the squalid streets of "Chinatown" without stumbling over the hordes of half-caste youngsters, half yellow and half white, who play in the gutters; and in nearly every Chinese laundry or boarding-house you enter, you see white women—most of them mere girls. In the majority of cases they once belonged to respectable families, and they are not at all of the class from which the women of a seaport's "sailortown" are usually recruited.

Well-dressed City Councillors and officials can see little of the real life of a Chinese boarding-house when they make their tours of inspection. The word of timely warning goes round with amazing rapidity. If the authorities in Cardiff want to know all the truth, as they assert, they must do as some of us did in Liverpool—assume the character of reckless sailors anxious to get rid of a good "pay-day." They must drink with the Chinese and smoke with them—not necessarily opium; they must speculate a few shillings at "lat-tan," "fan-tan," and "poc-a-pio." Then they will be able to discover what a Chinese den is like behind its closed doors at two or three o'clock in the morning.

It is quite easy to obtain admission to an opium den in Cardiff, London, or Liverpool. If you are a sailor with a pocketful of money, you can find one of those degraded white men who act as touts for the Chinese, and ask him to conduct you. Likely enough, he will take care that you are robbed during the evening, as many a good sailorman of my acquaintance has been. A strange Chinaman can always find an opium den patronised by his own "townies," so to speak. He would say to the first fellow-countryman he met:

"Ne secta cotti tong hon-ha y-in shëe-ah?" ("Can you tell me where the opium-smoking house is?")

By this sentence, which is in the Cantonese dialect, the Chinaman addressed would know that he was a Cantonese, and would accordingly direct him to a Cantonese place. If he spoke in the Hakka dialect he would be sent to a Hakka den, and so on. The Chinese have very strong provincial sentiments, and their mutual antipathies have led to many riots and breaches of the peace in Liverpool.

Gambling and insanitary conditions are common evils in Chinese boarding-houses, but they sank into insignificance during our investigation beside greater enormities.

What is to be done in the matter? Of course, stricter administration of the existing laws governing these places is necessary; but we found in Liverpool that the childlike and bland Celestial is more than a match for the average policeman or sanitary inspector. The only real cure is to keep the Chinese out—to restrict their settlement in Great Britain and their employment on British ships within the narrowest possible limits. Every argument which has ever been urged against alien immigration applies with peculiar force to the Chinese. All white communities among whom they have settled to an appreciable extent have found them the most undesirable of all foreign undesirables. Australia, Canada, and America will not have them, and they will flock to England in droves if the first adventurers send home word that England is a good place where they can practise their beloved habits unchecked, and live easily, and save money, by undercutting the natives. Their low standard of living renders fair competition with them by white men impossible. They sign on the ships for 30s. a month, against the white man's £4 5s. or £4 10s., and their food only costs the shipowner 4½d. a day, about a third the cost of a white man's on the Board of Trade scale.

But they will not stick to the ships. There is a constant leakage of them ashore, and it will increase enormously year by year. Indeed, it has been increasing during the last two or three years to a most alarming extent. The economic peril of Chinese competition is hardly a bogey, as many Liverpool laundrywomen now in the workhouse have discovered. And yet the Government which objected so strongly to the Chinese being in South Africa seems quite content that they should man British ships—where they are hardly likely to strengthen the Royal Naval Reserve—and infest British seaports. Through the Home Secretary's weakness, any ship carrying less than twenty alien steerage passengers is exempted from the provisions of the Alien Immigration Act. Nineteen destitute, diseased, immoral Chinamen can land any day, and no one can say them nay. In this way a batch of Chinese entered Liverpool after they had been rejected successively at Hawaii, San Francisco, Vancouver, and St. John's, N.B.

England, apparently, is to have the leavings of the rest of the world. If nothing is done, the question will assume a most serious aspect in course of time. If the Chinese work on the ships, they will work on the docks. If they run laundries, they will run other businesses—and they will not always stay at the seaports. They will spread over the country, as they have done over Australia and America, carrying their immoral filth and habits with them.


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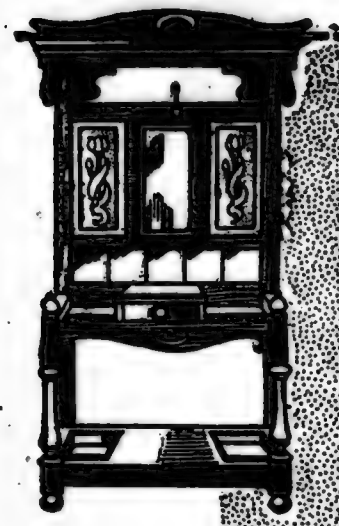
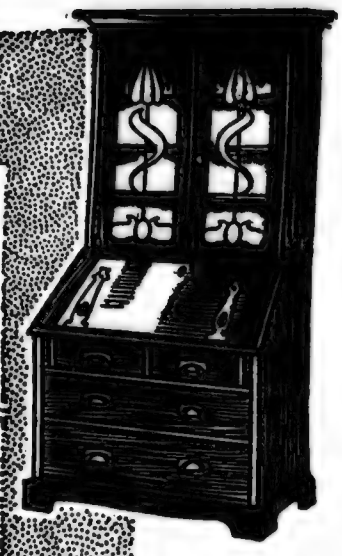

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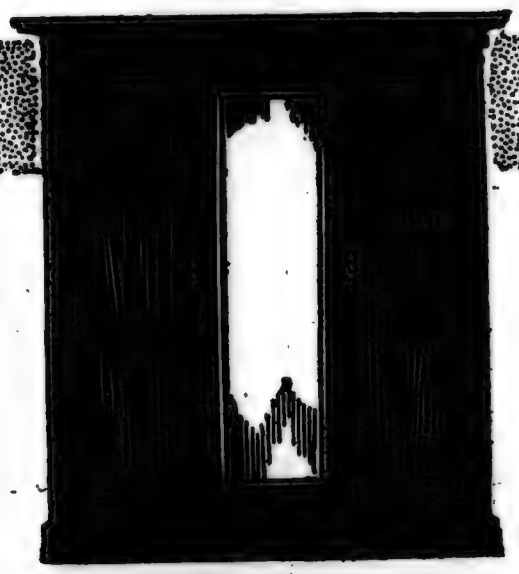

## JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

By Mrs. Bull.

### The "Sailor's Friend."

Every Jack Tar will think that Miss Agnes Weston has not been honoured one jot above her deserts in receiving a signed photo of the King. I am sure that if a penny subscription were started to purchase a fine gold frame to put the photo in, the scheme would be enthusiastically hailed. Miss Weston's work for "Poor Jack"—as the sailor pathetically calls himself—started in a very modest manner. A lonely youth confided to her his feeling on arriving at a foreign port and seeing his messmates eagerly open their letters from home, while he, poor chap, had no one to write to him. Miss Weston said nothing, but when the *Crocodile* arrived at her port in India, there was a long and interesting letter of home news and gossip for the lonely one from Miss Weston. Ere long quite a number of lonely ones were begging for letters. Miss Weston complied, but the demand grew so fast that ere long she had 500 copies of her monthly letter printed and sent to her unknown friends. Now no less than 4,000 letters, called "Blue Books," are printed, and go by post to all parts of the world for every ship that carries the Union Jack Thirty-five years ago Miss Weston founded a Sailors' Rest and Institute at Devonport, near to the dockyard gates. To do this she made an appeal for funds. Money came from all parts of the world, and very soon £6,000 was raised. The "Rest" includes a public-house and dining-rooms, a savings' bank, a club, reading and smoking rooms, and an extensive boarding-house. In the very first year the bar defrayed the working expenses of the whole concern, and left a profit of nearly £120. It goes without saying that Miss Weston is a regular genius at organisation.

### Fascinating Fichus.

Fashions of all descriptions have their little innings, and then fade away and are often enough entirely forgotten. On the other hand, some styles are so delightful and so universally becoming that every three or four years they bob up fresh. One of these irresistible dress accessories is the fichu, which is now once more being taken into Dame Fashion's good graces. They owe this reinstatement to the Directoire sash, though at first sight it is not easy to see the connection between the two. But the secret lies in the ends. Ingenious modistes have been arranging and draping the long ends of the sash with such striking success that anything with swaying ends now appears desirable. Thus fichus in silk or satin, muslin, crêpe-de-chine, or any of those multitudinous soft and fragile materials that it is difficult to classify, may be used with an easy conscience upon one's very newest gown. Whatever be the type of figure of the wearer of the frock, the accommodating fichu is sure to add grace and elegance, and there are not many toilette accessories of which that sweeping assertion may safely be made.

If a gown is to be especially designed so that the fichu shall be part of the scheme of its creation, a certain simplicity should be observed as both picturesque and harmonious. Let me describe a pretty dress of this type. Imagine a high-waisted skirt of satin-faced cloth of a pleasing shade of blue. It is trimmed down the front by buttons. The bodice is simply a plain-fitting tucked net, of just the same tone. The fichu is of soft wide chené ribbon, a cream ground with blurred blue flowers. It crosses over the shoulders, fastens by a rosette on the bust, then passes under the arms to the back of the waist, where it ties, apparently, in a natty little bow, allowing long ends to sweep down to the end of the train. The fichu that is designed to smarten up a somewhat *passé* gown is best made of delicate material softly folded and edged with a frill, the ends being made ample both in length and width.

### The Most Fashionable Trimming.

At the present moment that proud title can unquestionably be claimed by fringe, and, what is more, it has come to stay for some time. An old dressmaker tells me that it was driven out of fashion some fifteen years ago by the common, shoddy, limp-looking, cheap varieties that sprang up plentifully as soon as it was universally adopted by the smart costumiers. As a trimming for evening frocks it is at its best. It is being made of gold and silver tinsel, and of pearls, crystals, and other delicate-hued beads. A pretty variety of silken fringe is formed with threads of two, or even three, harmonising tints, which give it a shot effect as it sways with the movements of the wearer. Its newest use is for the trimming of hats. A charming Riviera model of the finest white silky felt had the crown surrounded by a simple wreath of blush roses, while a band of pale pink fringe rested upon the brim. Another of pale blue Ottoman silk had the brim surrounded by fringe so deep that it fell over the edge all round with charming effect. A couple of snowy ostrich plumes curled gracefully round each side of the low crown.

### Words for the Housewife.

If your rugs or carpets look faded and dusty, give them a dose of salt. It can be administered in two ways. Sprinkle with dry salt before sweeping, or after using the broom, wipe over with a cloth rung out in salt water. A cupful of salt to a basin of water is the best proportion.

Honey should be kept in the dark, or it will granulate. Salad, too, keeps fresher and crisper if hidden from the light. This is specially noticeable in the case of watercress.

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## BULL'S EYES.

SOME UNFOUNDED AND CONFOUNDED RUMOURS:—
That they are not poor Law Guardians.
That they call it "Behind, Coope and Co." now.
That if Lloyd George taxes hoardings he will find us all Willing.
That Chinese official paper is headed, "Mind your own business."
That they speak of him as "Wearying Willie" now.
That the living-in system is a "fine" one.
That the Cliff Mister "Mystery" is one.
That R. J. Campbell can make a cough-drop.

"Glowworm's Notes," we read. Light literature!

President Roosevelt's last Message to Congress is described as a "striking" document. More "big stick"?

A Baltimore tradesman is offering free funerals and monuments to his customers. What does he deal in?

A "Pyjama Party" has been given at a New York restaurant. Evening dress.

"Fifty Per Cent. Profits on Suits," reads a headline. Not law-suits.

Curious that a billiard player should get tired when he so frequently takes a rest.

"The Box Office is the barometer of public opinion," says Judge Parry. Is that why so many people try to "tap" it?

The pastor of Moody's church, Chicago, has arranged for funny stories to be told every Sunday, to make the congregation laugh. He will have to change the name of the church too.

"We are not going to stand it any more," says Lloyd George, in reference to the House of Lords. But they've been taking it "lying down."

A man who fought forty duels has just died. Evidently duelling was his forte.

"A woman prays to get into heaven," says the *Melbourne Age*. But she is never very anxious to start the journey.

The Milan woman who committed suicide rather than face the confusion of moving into another house must have been much moved.

Cigar boxes made of paper instead of cedar wood are the latest. To match the cigars, we presume.

"Do Women Wear Garters?" asks the *Express*. *Nous verrons.*

There is a vast difference between being a man of mark, and a marked man.

A woman employed at the Coliseum dislocated her jaw recently while yawning. This is not a "puff" par.

It is a sad reflection that people who don't pay their debts get the most credit in this world.

THE GOVERNMENT READING:—
"*Always* put off till to-morrow what you *daren't* do to-day."

Discount is allowed on income-tax paid before it is due. But the average victim "gets his own back" when making out his return.

One of our readers wished us a *Merry* Xmas and *Avery* happy new year.

Another thing you can't do—Put your foot down with a firm hand.

Barclay, Perkins and Co. have sent out notices stopping pensions of old employés. This is bad for their health, and will keep them neither hale nor stout.

Mr. Plowden says that hatpins are one of the most dangerous weapons of modern civilisation. Mrs. Bull adopts an uncompromising hattitude, and is submitting the point to experts.

"Lady Chauffeur," reads a headline. "Chauffeuse," surely.


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### CURED AFTER 20 YEARS.

*Mrs. Chapman.*

MRS. JOEL CHAPMAN, near the School, Greenfield, near Ampthill, Beds., writes:—"For over twenty years I suffered dreadfully from bronchitis and asthma, which was attended by nasal catarrh and blood-spitting. Every attack I had seemed to get worse, and I could hardly breathe on account of the accumulation of phlegm in the nose and throat.

"I thought I should never be any better, as I am 56 years of age, but one day I tried Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and was relieved after one dose, and found great comfort. I could breathe freely and naturally through the nose, and the blood-spitting was at once stopped, the phlegm did not arise, and I got so much relief that I don't know how to thank you enough for what Veno's Lightning Cough Cure has done for me."

Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is the Safest and Purest Remedy for:—
COUGHS & COLDS. BRONCHITIS, WEAK LUNGS. INFLUENZA.
**9½d.** per bottle.
ASTHMA. NASAL CATARRH. CHILDREN'S COUGHS. OLD-AGE COUGHS.
Larger sizes 1/1½ and 2/9, of all chemists.

# VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE.



## Your Clothes will cost you Less

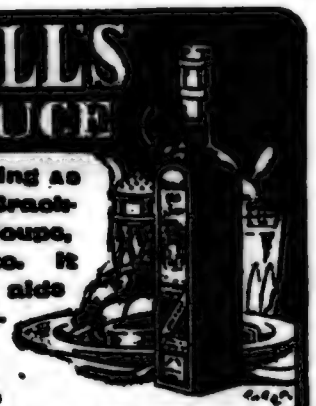
if you treat them well and have them properly cleaned at intervals. This can only be done satisfactorily by the dry-cleaning process, which preserves the shape. It does not cost more than 3/9 for a suit, or 3/6 for a light overcoat. We return the clothes in a few days perfectly cleaned and tailor-pressed. Apply to one of our Agents, send the parcel direct to us, or (in London) ring up
1265 East
—only do it *to-day*.
Pamphlet and address of nearest branch or agent on application.

# ACHILLE SERRE, Ltd.

(Nettoyage à Sec)
HACKNEY WICK, LONDON, E.



# BRACKNELL'S CLUB SAUCE



Nothing is so appetising as the added flavour of Bracknell's Club Sauce to Soups, Cold Meats, Stews, etc. It promotes appetite, aids digestion, and is absolutely pure.

Per 8 oz. bottle. **6d.** Of all Grocers.

If any difficulty in obtaining, send two stamps and name of your grocer, and a sample bottle will be sent post free by G. & S. BRACKNELL (Dept. s), Brandon Road, King's Cross, London.



# "LUNTIN" Mixture

*"Light and cool"*

Smokers unable to obtain "Luntin" from their Tobacconist may have a sample posted by sending six penny stamps to the Manufacturers,

**THOMSON & PORTEOUS, EDINBURGH**

## JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

*NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?*

SPECIAL NOTICE.—*Owing to the great increase in the number of* ENQUIRIES *received, consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag." The Editor will, however, in special cases, endeavour to reply by post to those correspondents who forward a stamped addressed envelope. When answers already standing in type have been published,* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will appear. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, &c., which will be duly acknowledged in these columns.*

"A READER" (Brixton) wants to see sixty torpedo boats appointed to guard the East Coast. All right. Let him consider it done.

T. A. H. (Zwartkops, South Africa).—Our ballot scheme is not restricted to home readers. We will consider the question of a separate ballot for foreign and colonial readers.

G. C. (Maida Vale) says Jim Crow's article on "Bad Humour" has saved him a shilling. The compliment has given Jim a very fine thirst.

G. F. H. (Birmingham) asks our opinion about Succo, the fasting man, who lived in a kind of glass cabinet with a perforated zinc opening through which he could converse, and had nothing but mineral waters and cigarettes for 52 days. G. F. H. wants to know how Succo attended to various little matters appertaining to the working of the human machine, and proceeds to draw certain inferences. But we are a family paper.

H. L. W. (Highgate) would like bound biscuits and bound volumes of JOHN BULL, which he thinks would be invaluable as a work of reference.

"ONE WHO KNOWS" (London).—Our hands are pretty full at present but we will bear in mind the need of enquiring into the whole system of lunacy administration.

J. C. D. (Broadstairs).—Sorry we have not time to go into your particular case. We can only deal with all these matters from the public standpoint.

"ORIZA" (Rathgar) sends the following cutting from the *Winning Post*:

> "'Trousers are not necessities,' said the Westminster County Court judge last week.
>
> "We do not know *anyone* bold enough to test this dictum of the learned judge by appearing without them in Bond Street."

And says that his wife, sister and daughter have frequently been bold enough to appear in Bond Street without trousers.

F. P. (Leicester) says the rapid extension of the Church of England Men's Society is largely due to the "inspiring personality, untiring zeal, thorough earnestness and rousing eloquence" of the Bishop of Stepney.

W. J. (Burton-on-Trent) informs us that the churchwardens of the Holy Cross, Great Greenford, Middlesex, are enquiring whether there are still living any relations or friends of a gentleman who "finished a life spent in the service of his friends and of the public Feb. the Third, 1749." This is not a misprint, as the gentleman took part in the military operations of 1710 and 1715. We do not see why he should not have relations still alive, but we fear that the majority of his personal friends must by this time have joined him.

J. H. T. (Edinburgh) says that while eggs have on many occasions played havoc with individuals, particularly at election times, they can scarcely be called musical instruments as per the classification of advertisements in the *Edinburgh Evening News*. Eggactly.

J. R. (West Hampstead).—How can you cure a phantom? It sounds a pretty pickle.

"FANTASIA."—We cannot advise on a hypothetical case. If you cannot trust us with particulars, we cannot move in the matter.

Miss C. E. (Holland Park).—Not bad. We must remember that.

W. G. G. (East Dulwich).—It is rather late in the day to think of claiming compensation for losses incurred during the American War of Independence.

M. C. (Chester).—Your lines on the twin tomcats are not quite up to your usual form. Nor even to ours.

A. C. B. (Brixton Hill).—Thank you very much, but we are quite sick of that subject.

A. C. B. (Birmingham).—No wonder you were amused to see a regiment with an escort of mounted police front and rear.

W. E. L. (Ramsgate).—What do you want us to say? Surely gangs of boys cannot be allowed to go about stealing and annoying everybody. This is not France.

T. C. B. (Burton-on-Trent).—A funny bit of printers' pie, but scarcely worth reprinting.

J. P. K. D. (Klerksdorp, Transvaal) comments upon our remark last October that the increase in foreign investments is among the causes of unemployment, and taunts us with not being willing to tax the foreigner by an import tariff. We should be very glad to tax the foreigner if we could catch him.

H. R. (Lydney) asks, "Is there such a thing as cent. per cent.? Are cases known to-day in which more than 50 per cent. is paid as interest? Bless his innocent little heart.


The Largest Watch-case Firm in the World.

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Here is a reduced Illustration of
J. G. GRAVES' "EMPRESS"
£2 10 0 English Lever £2 10 0
showing the distinctive features which have won for this splendid watch a world-wide reputation. The Cases are Massive Sterling Silver, full size; the Movement contains the genuine Chronometer Balance, reversing centre pinion, Breguet hairspring, and a close-fitting damp & dust-proof cap. The "Empress" costs twice as much as a cheap foreign imitation, but it's "Time almost Perfect," and to induce our fellow countrymen to prefer a Genuine English Lever, we have made the most remarkably Easy Terms ever known for the sale of a bona fide English Watch. We deliver the "Empress" for 5/- and your promise of nine monthly payments of 5/- Satisfaction or cash refunded. 5/- in the £ Cash Discount.

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tells you that
YARDLEY'S
SHAVING
STICK
is the best he ever used—don't believe him—get one and prove it yourself.

10½d. at all Chemists

"The Stick in the Glass Cup."

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If you suffer from heartburn, flatulence, a feeling of fulness or oppression after meals, send for a free trial box of Dr. Jenner's Absorbent Lozenges, which quickly relieve and correct these disorders by absorbing the acidity in the stomach to which they are due.

These Lozenges are made solely by Messrs. Savory and Moore, from a formula of the famous Dr. Jenner, the discoverer of vaccination. They are pleasant to take and perfectly harmless, having no effect whatever upon the stomach or the intestines. One or two Lozenges give immediate relief, even in the worst cases, and when taken before a meal prevent those distressing symptoms due to indigestion which so frequently follow. Boxes 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. (See that Savory and Moore's name is on the label.)

A FREE TRIAL BOX

will be forwarded to all who write, enclosing 1d. for postage, and mentioning "John Bull," to Savory and Moore, Ltd., Chemists to The King, 143, New Bond Street, London, W.

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Absorbent
LOZENGES

SUPPLIED TO THE HOUSE OF LORDS
Booth's Finest Old Dry
the only matured Gin
OBTAINABLE FROM ALL WINE MERCHANTS EVERYWHERE
Established 170 Years
GRAND PRIX AWARD FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED BY A FIRM ESTABLISHED 1687.

# A FURTHER EXTENSION OF OUR ASTOUNDING OFFER OF GENUINE YORKSHIRE BLANKETS

**TO READERS OF "JOHN BULL"**

Appreciating the enormous interest our announcements have created, we now submit the most extraordinary Blanket offer that has ever been before the British public. **30/-** worth of genuine Yorkshire and other full-size Blankets for **12/6**, and a **21/- ENGRAVING** of Rosa Bonheur's famous picture, "The Horse Fair," **GIVEN FREE. WE GUARANTEE** you entire satisfaction or send your money back per return of post. Read contents of Bale below, and remember we pledge our reputation of over 200 years on the absolute accuracy.

**DESCRIPTION OF PICTURE.**

This magnificent picture, "The Horse Fair," by Rosa Bonheur, appeals to almost everyone, and to lovers of animals especially. The true rendering of the strength and spirit of the horses, the daring bareback riders, together with the masterly handling of light and shade, make this, without doubt, the finest and most popular painting executed by the greatest of lady artists and animal painters.

**A FREE GIFT VALUE 21/- WITH EVERY BALE.**

**SEND TO-DAY. THE VALUE WILL ASTONISH YOU.**

**THE BALE CONTAINS**

**ALL SIZES GUA ANTEED.**

ONE Splendid Genuine Yorkshire Blanket, 82 by 62.
ONE Heavy Bolsover Blanket, 80 by 62.
ONE Very Fine Yorkshire Under Blanket, 50 by 32.
ONE Superb Whipped "Carona" Blanket, exceedingly warm and comfortable. 82 by 62.
ONE Handsome "Excella" Yorkshire Blanket, 76 by 58.

Remember! The whole Parcel for **12/6** and **1/-** for carriage: sent to any address in the United Kingdom, carriage paid. Two Bales for **25/-**, carriage paid, with two pictures, "The Horse Fair" and "Dutch Boats."

**MONEY BACK IF YOU ARE NOT SATISFIED.**

***What Our Customers say:***

St. John's Wood, Fleet, Hants., Oct. 19th, 1908.
Dear Sir,—Received Blankets, and am very pleased with them. I have a friend who has seen them, and will you please send me two more lots, as she would like some?—Yours truly, D. Parfett.
P.S.—The pictures are very sweet.

"Lingwoods," Kelvedon, Oct. 2nd, 1908.
Sirs,—Have received bale in good condition, also picture, and am more than pleased with both.—Yours, etc., Mrs. Thorrington.

24, Knowles Road, Oct. 17th, 1908.
Sir,—Having received the bale of Blankets this morning, I thank you very much, and I am very pleased with them. I shall recommend them to my friends.—I am, Sir, Yours obediently, E. Harvey.

24, Redan Street, W. Kensington, Oct. 20th.
Mrs. Pantlin has received her Blankets to her great satisfaction, and will do her best to recommend to her friends, and hopes at some future date to purchase from you again.

SEND TO-DAY FOR FREE CATALOGUES.

# GREEN'S UNIVERSAL STORES,
## STANSTED, ESSEX.

E. M. G.-S.—Your kind remarks were much appreciated.

F. W. H. (Exeter).—It sounds a bit ambiguous, doesn't it, to say that the lady was "reserved for cream"? So now you may cheese it.

A. G. (Islington) wants to know whether it is better for the country for the exports to exceed the imports, or *vice versa*. Surely it is more blessed to receive than to give.

"Athlete" (Teddington) is "thinking of putting a foot-wash on the market," and would like to know "what formalities he has to go through with the authorities" before he can do so. As far as we are aware, the answer is, none—but he should register his trade mark at Stationers' Hall. The next thing is, of course, to find the market.

A. E. G. (Mile End).—We do not know why a small cheat should be fined and a big one let off. Ask us another.

J. S. (Smethwick).—We are sorry that you do not find us more generally well-known. We really thought we had a fairly large public.

C. G. (Forest Hill).—If a father had two sons, one 81 years younger than the other, he must have lived a long time.

W. G. H. writes:

"How will Crow spend Christmas?
That is the question great.
Amidst all the cancer of trouble
O will his sound heart break?
He sees the time of warfare
With Bottomley harnessed about.
Will his head be erect, will he propagate
His old familiar flouts?
Or will he to Monte Carlo go?
Its chances to join, its mirth?
No! I trow that Crow will spend Christmas
On London's crowded earth!"

Quite right, Crow has already spent it there.

J. P. (Balham), J. G. W. (Streatham Will), T. S. (Beverley), W. A. Flixton) C. E G. (Stourbr dge), E. G. T. (Edgham), and R. W. (Jamaica Road).—Your sweet biscuits are all being baked.

"Leicester," F. L. C., A. L. (Clapham Common), H. B. C. (Herne Hill), L. J. P. (Sheffield), T. G. G. (London, S.E.), F. E. C. (Ilford), C. M. (Heath End), T. G. H., "Manufacturer," J. E. M. (Eastbourne), H. McK. (Westm nster), F. S. (Norwich).—Many thanks for the information, which will be very useful to us.

W. H. S. (St. John's Wood) draws our attention to the case of a convict who escaped, was recaptured, received some strokes of the lash, was confined in a cell on bread and water, and died of double pneumonia. We certa nly think that the treatment of prisoners might well be made more humane.

A. B. (Dublin) asks our opinion about the Eustace Miles Proteid Foods, Ltd. Miles is a good fellow, and his food is all right for those who like that kind of thing.

G. S. (West Hampstead).—We thank you and love you.

F. P. L. (Waldegrave Road, S.E.) sends us a yarn about a bullet found in a man's heart with a cartilege formed around it, and the suggestion that it ought to have been a cartridge. We will laugh next year.

B. J. P. (Plumstead) says that the Queen of Spain's abjuration of the Protestant Faith was just as offensive as the King's declaration against the Mass. But two blacks do not make one white.

C. F. B. (Edgbaston), "Regular Reader" (Greenock), J. B. K. (Sidcup), A. B. (Bristol), Dr. T. L. S. (Lee), "Cardiffian," D. R. (Houndsditch), W. E. M. (Leeds), A. E. M. (Gloucester), T. W. H. (Moseley), T. S. (Birmingham), C. W. G. (Bath), D. H. (Wellington), J. H. S. (Exeter), G. C. (South Shields), "Stamford," H. F. E. (Cardiff), "A Constant Reader" (Westerleigh), F. H. B. (London, S.E.), H. W. G. (Birmingham), R. M. (Shepherd's Bush), W. L. S. (Leicester), W. P. A. (Warrington). Mrs. L. E. (Moreton Place), B. O. (Holland Park), R. J. T. (Catford), W. S. (Leeds), "The Victim" (Harlesden), K. C. B. (Slough), "Hawthorn" (Edgbaston), J. W. R. (Sunderland), C. W. A., jun. (Thornaby), W. H. D. (Chiswick), H. C. F. (Peckham), J. S. C. (Leamington), H. A. (Belvedere), H. A. (Guernsey), C. C. (City Road), L. S. (Croydon), R. A. (Sedbergh), E. S. (Neath), R. W. (Leith), W. H. C. (Manchester), A. B. C. (Grimsby), A. F. L. (Neath), F. S. E. (Reading), S. W. G. (Gordon Square), "Hampstead," F. R. (Gateshead), W S. (Brighton), A. H. B. (Harleston), H. K. (Islington), J. S. B. (Shaftesbury Avenue), C. W. (Sheffield), W. R. (Warwick), T. M. (Brighton), J. B. (Newport), J. B. L. (Gospel Oak), "A Welsh Reader," D. M. W. (Wantage), F. W. (Bristol), E. A. P. (East Dulwich), H. E. (Devonport), H. D. A. (East Dulwich), H. V. G. (Bristol), F. R. (Bloxwich), C. H. F. C. (Seven Kings), "Crown Hotel" (Emsworth), G. P. (Bedford), J. E. B. (Cricklewood), L. G. T. (Camberwell), L. C. W. (Plymouth), W. H. (Darlington), Mrs. F. W. (Portland Place), H. S. P. (Guildford), E. H. (Bury Street), C. L. (Walton), "A Scot in Wales," F. C. (Parkstone), R. H. C. (Bloomsbury), J. L. H. (Talbot School), S. A. B. (Gunnersbury), Rev. W. B. R. (South Tottenham), S. J. T. (Chatham), M. J. F. (Brixton Hill), H. K. (Newport), A. J. S. (Brighton), A. E. M. (Birmingham), P. H. (Brixton), E. K. (Leytonstone), C. M. B. (Hove), "Cymro," W. E. (Bournemouth), A. McG. M. (Coatbridge), J. D. K. (West Kensington Park), R. B. (Bristol), T. L. S. (Seven Kings), W. W. (West Ham), W. H. W. (Chelsea), H. H. (Dowsbury), M. H (Eccles), "Reader" (Wolverton), Mrs. J. S. L. (Brighton), J. T. W. (Smethwick), A. J G. (Toronto), Mrs. M. S. (Gateshead), Miss F. M. W. (Chiswick), "A Constant Reader" (Paris), H. B. (Chorlton), C. L. H. (Edinburgh), M. I. T. (Worthing), W. J. (Glasgow), C. D. (Forest Gate), S. A. W. (Perth). Many thanks for interesting newspaper cuttings, etc.

*(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)*


*If books are worth collecting*
*They should be worth protecting.*

**Globe-Wernicke**

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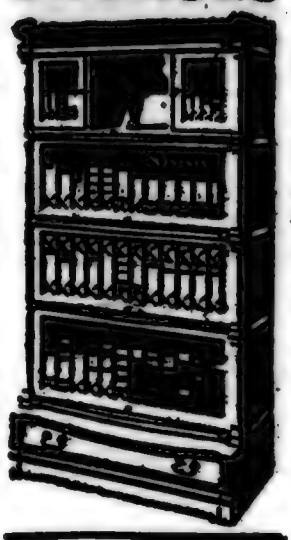

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# SOUND FINANCIAL METHODS.

## THE TRIUMPH OVER PREJUDICES. VICTORY OF REFORM.

There are few studies that afford greater pleasure or give greater satisfaction to the studiously inclined nature than a careful examination of the rise and fall of ancient nations, or the gradual decay of old traditions and the absorption or extinction of old institutions. The student, if he so desires, can trace how from these past great traditions a new code of ideas has gradually evolved, while from the structures of old historic houses new enterprises more fitted to deal with the altered conditions of time have been brought into being.

### *THE BATTLE WITH PREJUDICE.*

All great reforms that have tended to shake settled beliefs or to upset established methods have had to contend with both prejudice and violent opposition. It has been so in religion, in politics, in banking, in finance, and so it has been in the establishment of the London and Paris Exchange, Limited, an institution founded to give greater and more extended facilities for financial transactions and dealing in and obtaining advances on Stock Exchange securities. The directors wish to congratulate their supporters that, notwithstanding all this opposition, they have succeeded in establishing their enterprise, and they are convinced, from the progressive advancement of their business, that they occupy to-day a high position in public favour. The sound and liberal principles on which the business is conducted justify the belief that future years will witness a continuance of steady and healthy expansion, and bring increased prosperity.

### *MODERN INVESTMENT.*

To-day investment is on very different lines from what it was twenty, or even ten, years ago. The sphere of investment has been considerably broadened, and methods have become greatly diversified.

### *PROFITABLE INVESTMENTS.*

What the investor must do is to make it his business to obtain all necessary information from trustworthy sources. See that your money gives you a fair return, and that it is not locked up in unmarketable securities, where there is practically no chance of appreciation in capital value, and when you wish to realise there is no market to sell on. But, naturally, the investor asks, "How am I to obtain this knowledge? How am I to avoid being drawn into schemes which will mean loss of money to me? How am I to clearly understand the intricacies of money matters and Stock Exchange investments?"

### *A VALUABLE BOOK.*

The whole subject of investment and finance is lucidly and thoroughly explained, in a clear, practical manner, in "Modern Banking and Investment," a book which has been specially compiled by experts on all the varied financial subjects of the day. It is intended to help and assist those who desire that their capital shall be safely invested and at the same time yield a good return. It also lucidly explains the complicated technicalities of all Stock Exchange operations—it affords a complete encyclopædia to the Stock Exchange, and how profits can be made.

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# ARE YOU STILL UNCONVINCED?

## THE TURKISH BATH MAN AGAIN TALKS TO YOU.

In my previous "Talks," I have tried to convince you from my own personal experience of the value of Home Turkish Bathing, and of my 30s. Gem Cabinet in particular. I thought a plain, unvarnished tale, straight from the heart of a plain, serious business man, would have more weight than embroidered and fantastic statements or extracts from medical text-books.

This Home Turkish Bathing is a passion with me—it is the mission of my life to bring its benefits within everyone's reach. The more I learn of its value, the stronger is my determination to continue the good work and educate my fellow-countrymen and women to the necessity of Turkish Bathing.

You may be among the many thousands who are still unconvinced. You may think there is too much of the one-man, one-family experience, the experience of the man with an axe to grind. You may have read my "Talks," but have not troubled to send for the valuable 100-page booklet on Thermal Bathing which is free to anyone for the asking. It is a book which presents the case clearly and succinctly from practical, hygienic, and medical standpoints. Your attitude of leaving things alone is all very well if you are in the "pink of health," but the wise man is always prepared to repel the stealthy attacks of insidious disease. A sudden chill, unrelieved, may pave the way to deadly pneumonia, or may bottle up uric acid in the body and give rise to rheumatic, kidney, and liver troubles. Influenza may spring from a simple, neglected cold, and these damp, cold mornings, with the overhanging mist laden with disease germs, easily find the weak spot in one's system.

To me, or any other diligent, regular thermal bather, the approach of winter has no alarms. The system is fortified against disease. In season, or out, I take my bath regularly, once a week. If by extreme overwork, or domestic worries, I feel somewhat run down and a symptom of pain or cold appears, I promptly take a hot-air bath in my Cabinet, and continue to do so nightly until I rout the enemy. And the treatment is delightful and luxurious. I don't ruin my stomach with filthy drugs, which accumulate in the system, only to cause trouble at some future date. But while I have been testifying so far on purely personal lines, I have the valuable testimony of thousands of users in every part of the Kingdom to back up my statements. Let me show you what F. Stanley, of Teignmouth, wrote me:—

> "Unable to walk half-a-mile from weakness caused by fever, I took thirty baths, and at the end could walk ten miles with ease. I have used the Turkish bath constantly since then, and was the only one who escaped an epidemic of Influenza which passed over the place, though constantly in contact with the suffering."

Again, on the 21st of February last I was gratified to receive the following letter from a well-known West Country architect:—

> "Some five years ago I purchased one of your Gem Vapour Baths for 30s. . . . I use the bath every week, and it is as good as ever now. It was one of the best investments I ever made. I get a most healthful and delightful Turkish Bath at a very small cost. . . . I suffer from kidney trouble, and the bath has been of the greatest service to me by relieving the kidneys through the skin."

I asked this gentleman's permission to use his letter, and with large-heartedness not always found in those even who are grateful for benefits received, he promptly replied:—

> "I shall have no objection to your doing so, because I can substantiate everything therein stated, and if any people suffering from kidney troubles, rheumatism, and all kindred troubles caused by uric acid, were to use the Cabinet Bath every week they would quickly eliminate this most troublesome poison through the pores of the skin."

Liver and kidney troubles are caused largely by imperfect skin action and the retention of waste matters in the body. If the skin remains inactive, the inner organs cannot do the extra work of eliminating waste matters, and disease results. In this class of disease the use of the Gem Cabinet is markedly efficacious. From the very first bath the skin resumes its proper function, the overtaxed inner organs are relieved, the general blood stream is purified, and the whole body responds to the healthful stimulus. Obstinate cases, the effects of years of wrong living, cannot fail to be relieved and ultimately cured if the Gem Cabinet be faithfully used, and reasonable precautions taken in eating and drinking. Let Mr. Wm. Tasker, of Lower Edmonton, confirm my words:—

> "It must be twelve months ago since I purchased a Gem Still and Vapour Bath from you. The complaint from which I suffered—i.e., of the kidney and liver—was so deep-seated that it has taken a very long time to obtain a permanent result. Such I believe now to be the case. Anyone suffering in like manner cannot do a wiser thing than purchase from you a Gem Still and a Vapour Bath, which from the very first will give every satisfaction. They will be treated in a most courteous, honest, and business-like way. You are at perfect liberty to use this genuine and unsolicited testimonial as you think fit."

But of all the troubles flesh is heir to, none is more prevalent than rheumatism. Almost every other man or woman I meet suffers in greater or lesser degree from rheumatism. In summer rheumatic pains often disappear, but excruciating torture is felt on the approach of cold or damp weather. The reason is simple. Heat relaxes the pores and wear-and-tear particles are carried out of the body. Cold and damp close the pores, elimination is imperfect, and rheumatism becomes manifest. This explains why physicians and hygienists are unanimous in recommending the Gem Turkish Bath as the only satisfactory method of treating rheumatism and kindred complaints. In extreme cases, where no cure could ever be promised or expected, the Cabinet never fails to soothe the pains immediately. Any repetition does not decrease its efficacy. Want of space forbids me to quote more than two from the very great number of letters I have received from grateful users of my Cabinet. You are welcome to see the originals at my address if you like.

James H. Heyes, Clerk to Little Hulton Council, writes:—

> "I took my first bath the same evening, and I can truly say that the effect was marvellous. The previous day my right leg was painful from hip to toe with rheumatism, but by Thursday morning it had nearly all vanished."

F. A. Lyon, of Seaford:—

> "I have used your Cabinet for the last two years, and think it only right and just to tell you that I have found it invaluable. I am never without it, even taking it abroad; it is most useful. Anyone suffering from rheumatism or gout ought not to be without it. Please make use of this letter if you wish. I have recommended the Bath to several people, and all are well pleased with it."

I could fill a big space relating what the Gem Bath Cabinet has done for humanity suffering from rheumatism, kidney troubles, eczema, catarrh, bronchial troubles, blood-poisoning, etc.

Let me earnestly entreat you to send for my 100-page book, and carefully digest what is there clearly and plainly put as the case for Home Turkish Bathing. Better still, send me your money order, or cheque (you can post-date it ten days if you like), and I will forward you a No. 1 Cabinet on the understanding that you can return it within ten days if you do not realise some relief from pain, some pleasure in undreamt-of cleanliness, some brightening of spirits, and have your money refunded. Money orders and cheques should be made payable to my Company, The Gem N. Supplies Co., Ltd., 22, Pear Tree Street, Goswell Road (near Gas Office), London, E.C.

## RACING NOTES.

By W. Lorrimer.

("Larry Lynx" of "The People," and "Magpie" of "The Globe.")

**Medley.**

"It's 6 to 4 on every time" is what backers complain. Bookmakers, in response, adding, "Yes, but they win."

It is particularly said that Hartigan must have an incubator at Weyhill to keep turning out recruits and handicap horses to jumping with such consistent regularity and success.

The "wheeze" is to put three-mile 'chasers into two-mile events to get them beaten, and "wipe out" previous winning performances. The ready-made "excuse" is always at hand.

Some meetings are losing their attractions, for both the International Hurdle race and Tantivy Steeplechase have failed to fill, and a third race—the Gatwick Steeplechase—at the same venue, has, through similar lack of support, been abandoned.

Many a little backer leaves off in winter on the very true reasoning that betting is not worth the trouble, as if one does "find" them, the price is either 7 to 4 on or 11 to 10 against. What silver punters like is 33's, and 8's for a "shop."

It is noticeable that the first few weeks of the year give more work to the Brothers Frail as Clerks of the Course than any other Executive, for Manchester and Windsor each hold two or three meetings very close together.

It is a pretty general opinion that Jealousy is the best recruit to jumping so far saddled, and to give an idea of what the value of a practically unknown and moderate maiden flat race animal can immediately become, I hear that Lord Marcus Beresford prices the three-year-old filly at £2,000.

**Recent N.H. Racing.**

There can be no question but that both bookmakers and backers are complaining at the present time in regard to the poverty of the game in National Hunt sport. More people, *collectively*, are betting now than a few years ago, and yet there is "no money about." Various causes produce these bad times—for instance, the more severe restrictions upon our army officers, and, above all, the fact that the S.P. offices are getting the money whereby the rings at meetings are much impoverished. Take the case of Plumpton. Although there were plenty of people present, and very open, interesting racing, the "business" was tame in the extreme. And yet, whenever the bookmakers got a bet they immediately did not want it—and had the worst of it. In the cases of recruits, even when there were several runners—nearly all Maiden three-year-olds, so that the possibility of a surprise was more imminent—the fielders launched out (?) by asking for odds. It is true enough—as some of them admit—that when backers lay odds on in a big field in a race of two miles over obstacles, they *deserve* to win, and the bookmaker's pure gamble against the one horse is in all senses justified.

**Prophetic.**

Hurst Park's will not be a big programme, but must claim its interesting features, especially if some of the "cracks" contest the Maiden Plates, or we have a battle between one of Mr. Assheton-Smith's, Cross Question, Rubio, Porridge, Moonstruck, and Veglo for the Open Steeplechase on Saturday. Although the stable do not look like having a perfect benefit, which the last and abandoned meeting promised, I think South Hatch will win Friday's New Year Hurdle Handicap with Brother Bill, and go close for Saturday's January Handicap with the bottom-weight Sherwood Rise, who unquestionably could win if he would. Another "Epsomite," Balbriggan, may gain the Maiden Plate, unless Angelus turns out, and is a real flyer. Mr. Hodgson's horse is also engaged on the Saturday, but, assuming that he *has* won or anyhow run the previous afternoon, I should pick Hill Climber—benefited for his eye-opener over hurdles last week—as likely to be fancied and successful. At Wolverhampton next Monday,

Odor

ran well enough at Windsor recently to pick up the Minor Handicap, while to-day (Thursday) Battlebird should be supported each way at Windsor.

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The following claims have been received for the issues of November 21st, 28th, and December 5th:—

F. WITHERINGTON, 8, Colenso Road, Millfields Road, Clapton, N.E. (No. 25810!—November 21st, 1908.)

G. DRURY JOHNSON, Ivy Cottage, Oulder Hill, Rochdale. (No. 24256—November 28th, 1908.)

Mrs. F. C. ROGERS, 74, Boxley Road, Maidstone. (No. 253365—November 21st, 1908.)

W. E. DEWETT, 30, Wright Street, Small Heath, Birmingham. (No. 31068—November 28th, 1908.)

G. W. KAY, 14, Macdonald Road, Forest Gate, E.. (No. 158103—December 5th, 1908.)

J. REYNOLDS, Avondale Restaurant. Parade, Margate. (No. 91991—December 5th, 1908.)

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of December 12:—

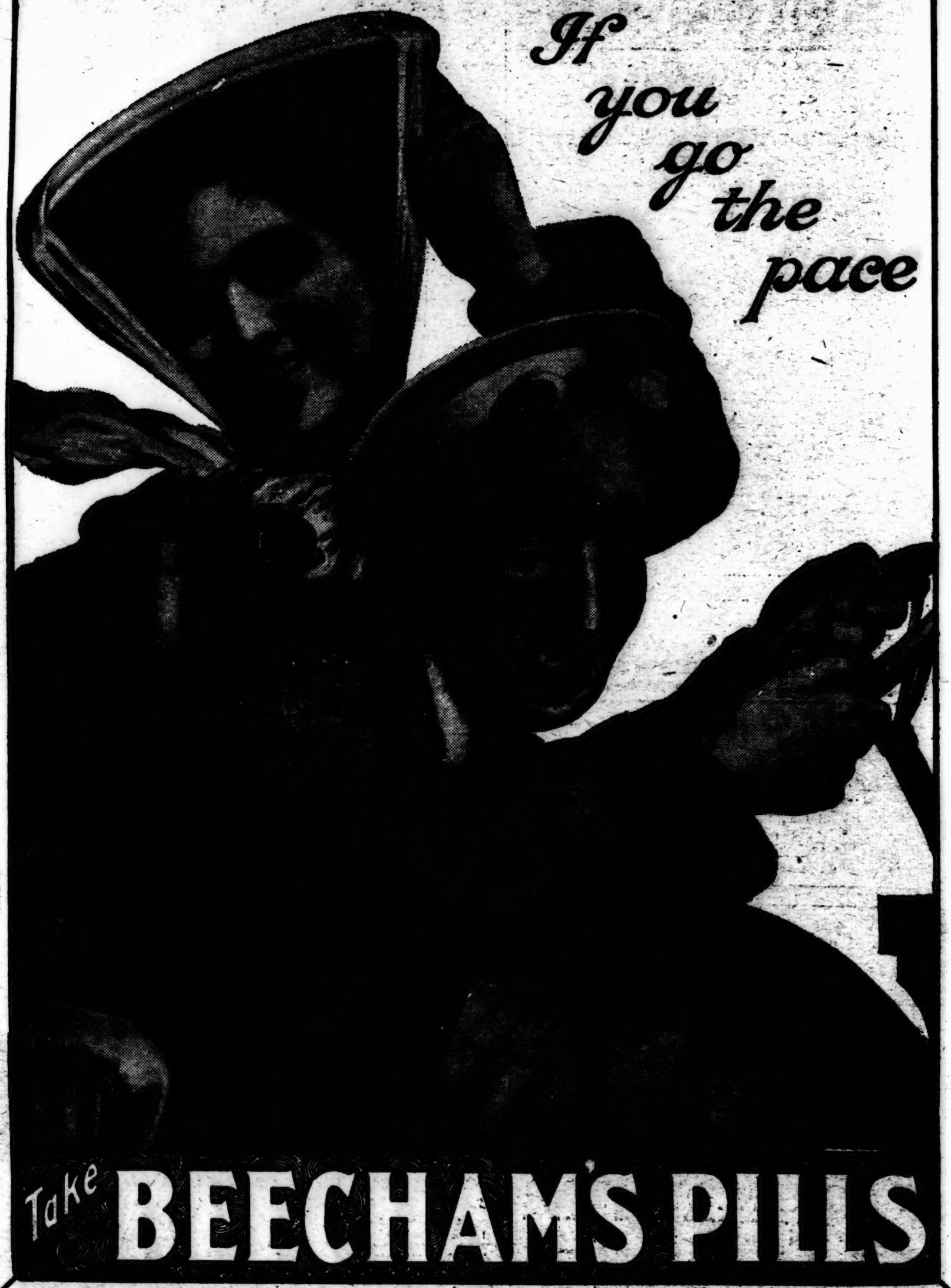
**4563; 11087; 14414; 23985; 27006; 34923; 34989; 38240; 44567; 46821; 47231; 50002; 58341; 62397; 67240; 70856; 73483; 88901; 97013; 98342; 107387; 116321; 124476; 131572; 156972; 159887; 164104; 168600; 171089; 175847; 183762; 189450; 191365; 196777; 209318; 215649; 216855; 224387; 229805; 234617; 236460; 240015; 246687; 249624; 256385; 265592; 278146; 285060; 294315; 311467.**

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED FEBRUARY 19TH (PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 11TH).

### Special Notice.

After the end of the present month, this scheme will be entirely re-organised. Numbers will be drawn weekly in respect of the previous week's issue, and, instead of having to undertake canvassing, the holders of the drawn numbers will be asked to assist us in another, and novel, manner involving no encroachment upon their spare time or present occupation.





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